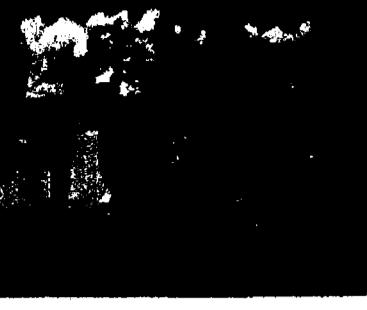




CRAWFORD COUNTY AVALANCHE

Thursday, April 3, 2003

Publishing in Grayling since 1879



Track preview 1B

50%

Five people injured in ambulance rollover

by Cherrill Ruley
Staff Writer

An out-of-area ambulance transporting a patient from Sault Ste. Marie to Lansing rolled over in slippery road conditions early Tuesday morning on I-75, between Four Mile Road and the US-127 split.

Ambulance personnel made an urgent call to Crawford County 911 Central Dispatch at about 1:45 a.m. on April 1, reporting "multiple injuries," and requested the Jaws of Life.

Michigan State Police Troopers out of the Houghton Lake Post responded to the scene and reported "terrible road conditions" in the area due to snow.

Personnel from Beaver Creek Township Fire Department were dispatched and were on scene within minutes of the accident. Mobile Medical Response personnel also responded. Three people were treated at Mercy Hospital in Grayling and released. Two others were transferred to other hospitals for further treatment.

The identities of the victims and the extent of their injuries were not immediately available.

Former GMS teacher's sentencing put on hold

by Cherrill Ruley
Staff Writer

A former Grayling Middle School (GMS) math teacher was expected to be sentenced April 7 for making a bomb threat to the school last March, but court documents show the hearing was adjourned March 31 "until further notice."

46th Circuit Trial Court Chief Judge Alton T. Davis said Kathryn Anne Olson's attorney, Thomas Plachta, mentioned he might submit a mental health evaluation to the court, but the judge has yet to receive it. "Any decision on sentencing will require more information," explained Judge Davis.

"I am waiting to talk to the attorneys and don't want to proceed until I see what they have, if anything," said Judge Davis, who allowed Olson to travel to Utah, from March 27 through April 4, to attend her son's ski competition. She remains free on \$10,000 bond.

Olson pled guilty at a hearing last month and admitted, while under oath, that she made a phone call to Grayling Middle School principal Doniel Pummell on March 11, 2002 and stated, "Good luck trying to find the bomb at your school."

Olson waived her right to a jury trial with her guilty plea on March 3. She faces up to four years in prison and/or a \$2,000 fine and could be sentenced as early as May.

Crawford AuSable Schools' Superintendent Milli Haug was unavailable for comment.

Jumping rope for health - theirs and ours



Students had a variety of activities during the annual Jump Rope for Heart fund-raiser. Students from all three elementary schools in the district were together for the first time while participating in this activity.

by Susan Warrington
Staff Writer

The parking lot in front of Grayling Elementary was a hive of activity on the morning of March 27. Students from Frederic Elementary, Grayling Elementary and AuSable Primary participated in Jump Rope for Heart.

This program allows students to practice and perfect jump rope skills while promoting the benefits of lifelong heart healthy habits. It also allows them to give back to their community by helping in the fight against heart disease and stroke, the nation's number one and number three killers.

Students collect pledges before the event and many people are willing to contribute to

the event because it actively involves kids and helps to support the American Heart Association which is a co-sponsor of the event along with the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance.

Since the inception of the program over 20 years ago, students have raised more than \$305 million for medical research and programs that help children learn how to prevent heart disease and stroke.

This year the students spent two hours jumping rope, keeping hula hoops moving, trying to limbo and shoot baskets. The event was coordinated by Julie Dunkley and Don Knapp who said the students earned over \$8,000 this year.



It's not easy keeping those hula hoops going but these two seem to be having some success and lots of fun.

Photos by Susan Warrington

Foot tappin' good time



Photo courtesy of Grayling Nursing Centre

Residents of Grayling Nursing Centre and special guests from Mercy Manor were entertained recently by country music singer, Michael Harding. Harding traveled from Nashville, TN to perform at nursing facilities throughout Michigan. He is currently working on releasing a CD and spends his time singing to nursing home residents and special performances. He will perform in Washington, D.C. next month.

The residents enjoyed the music, jokes and autographed photos they received from Harding. Many commented it was a pleasure to invite other nursing homes to join in the fun. It was nice to meet "the neighbors," they said.

Top - Mildred Taylor joins in a song with country singer, Michael Harding; bottom - Virginia Anderson "cuts the rug" with Harding at the Grayling Nursing Centre recently.

School board candidates have until April 7 to file

by Cherrill Ruley
Staff Writer

Two seats on the Crawford AuSable School District's Board of Education will be up for election June 9. Candidates have until 4 p.m. on Monday, April 7 to file their petitions.

One-term Board Trustee and retired Frederic Elementary School Principal, Melvin Nunn, announced in February he will not seek re-election.

Incumbent Gary Pettyjohn will be seeking his second full, four-year term.

As of Monday morning,

March 31, Pettyjohn, local optometrist William Dean, D.O., both of Grayling Township, and former school board member Lewis Madill, of Frederic, have filed or picked up petitions.

There is still time to pick up a nominating petition at the District's Central Office, located at 403 E. Michigan Avenue in Grayling, or pay a non-refundable \$100 filing fee in lieu of gathering signatures on a petition.

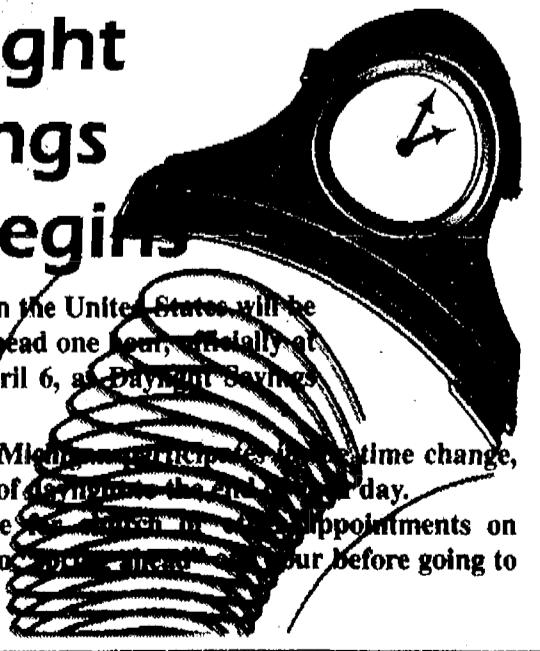
The last day to register to vote in the June 9 school election is Monday, May 12.

Daylight Savings Time begins

Most people living in the United States will be turning their clocks ahead one hour, officially at 2 a.m. on Sunday, April 6, at Daylight Savings Time begins again.

The entire state of Michigan will observe the time change, adding an extra hour of daylight the first full day.

To avoid being late for work or appointments on Sunday, don't forget to set your alarm an hour before going to bed Saturday night.



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- Habitat needs you! 2A
- Viking Band members earn top ratings 3A
- Dancers begin season of competition 14A
- Spring sports games, meets start next week 1B
- Athletic Director says no cuts planned 2B

Crawford County Avalanche

Crawford County's Newspaper since 1879
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- Facts & Features 8B
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- Opinions 4A, 13A
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- Obituaries 12A

"Letters from Home"

The Crawford County Avalanche invites the parents and loved ones of active duty U.S. military members -- serving stateside or overseas, in any branch of the military -- to submit the mailing addresses of those service members for publication in upcoming editions of our newspaper.

At the suggestion of one of our readers, a listing of such addresses will be published each week, allowing our readers to "adopt" a soldier, sailor, or airman by writing them "Letters from Home."

The Letters from Home campaign is our way of saying "Thank You" to the men and women serving our nation during Operation Iraqi Freedom. We strongly encourage participation to allow each of our local service members to receive words of encouragement and news from the home front.

Help brighten the day of those who serve by allowing the community to write Letters from Home.

Please submit addresses by mail to the Crawford County Avalanche, P.O. Box 490, Grayling MI 49738; by fax at (989) 348-6806; or drop them off at our office located at 102 Michigan Avenue in Grayling. An after-hours mail slot is located on the bottom of the inner door for your convenience.

Letters From Home Addresses:

SSGT. Pernie T.J. USMC
MWHS-3 G-3
UIC 41002 Box 2506
FPO AP 96614-2506

SGT Melvin Middleton
405 AEW-ELRS
Operation Enduring Freedom
Unit 73004
APO, AE 09395-3004

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Sundaes, dogsled racing end reading month



Photo by Susan Warrington

School Board Trustee Jim Tobin was the final guest reader to appear at Frederic Elementary during National Reading Month.

by Susan Warrington
Staff Writer

Using the theory that you save the best for last, while the students at Frederic Elementary finished their second, third or fourth sundaes of the day, Jim Tobin read *Kiana's Iditarod* to them during the afternoon of March 27.

The students earned their reward by reading more than 6,000 books during National

Reading Month. Subs and ice cream sundaes, supplied by the Frederic Parent Teacher Organization and library paraprofessional Wendy Kucharek, were the order of the day for the readers.

Other guest readers during the month-long program were AuSable Primary Principal Barbara Mick, Grayling Elementary Principal Angela

Camp, Grayling Middle School (GMS) Principal Doniel Pummell, GMS Assistant Principal Jeff Branch, former Lead Teacher at Frederic Elementary Kim VanDrese, school board members Karl Schreiner and Pat Nunn, Deputy Bill Bonkowski, who oversees the D.A.R.E. and Safety Patrol programs and Frederic businessman Lewis Madill.

VFW seeks July 4 parade participants

Veterans of Foreign Wars Carl W. Borchers Auxiliary 3736 July 4th Parade

Entry Form

Name of organization: _____

Contact person: _____ Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____ Phone: _____

WILL BE ENTERING:

Float _____ Float with music _____ Marching Group _____ Marching with equipment _____

Band _____ Equipment _____ Bicycles _____ Animals _____ Organization _____

Animals and Equipment _____ What kind of animals? _____

Other _____

Please return this application on or before June 25, 2003 to one of the following:

Lou Ann Crosby 410 Knight St., Box #1 Grayling, MI 49738 Ph: (989) 348-8186

Marie Scott 3610 Jones Lake Road Grayling, MI 49738 e-mail: jobob@freeway.net

To celebrate the birthday of the United States of America -- July 4 Independence Day -- the Ladies Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Carl W. Borchers Post 3736 in Grayling will be organizing a parade.

Those interested in being in the parade, need to fill out the entry form and mail it to one of the Auxiliary members listed to be received no later than June 25, 2003. Make sure to include the name and phone number of a contact person.

The July 4th Parade Committee looks forward to everyone joining them in celebration of our nation's birthday. Call Lou Ann Crosby at 348-8186 or e-mail Marie Scott at jobob@freeway.net for more information.

The July 4th Parade Committee looks forward to everyone joining them in celebration of our nation's birthday. Call Lou Ann Crosby at 348-8186 or e-mail Marie Scott at jobob@freeway.net for more information.

Bill would clear air on tax exemption

The state Senate passed legislation recently altering the name of the homestead tax exemption to alleviate any confusion with the homestead property tax credit. Legislators have reported an overwhelming amount of confusion between the two tax credit terms since the inception of Proposal A in 1994. Sponsors of the bill hope its passage will eradicate the confusion and allow Michigan residents to properly calculate their taxes and receive one or both of the credits, if eligible.

Twenty years after the homestead property tax credit was created, the implementation of Proposal A added statutory provisions for a homestead exemption. The credit and the exemption offer two separate ways for taxpayers to reduce their tax burdens, and qualified taxpayers may claim either or both. Because both the credit and the exemption refer to "homestead," some taxpayers have been or become confused regarding their ability to qualify for both. Senate Bill 133 seeks to make a clear distinction between the homestead exemption and the homestead tax credit by changing the exemption name to "principal residence" exemption.

The change in terminology should also make it easier for township treasurers to explain the exemption and the credit to the public.

Senate Bill 133 has been sent on to the House of Representatives for consideration.

Habitat needs you!

by Cheryll Ruley
Staff Writer

Have recent world events got you glued to your television set... your mind constantly pondering the war in Iraq? Would you like to give your heart and mind a break from it all? Perhaps helping out in your own community is the answer.

The Crawford County chapter of the internationally-known home-building group, Habitat for Humanity, is in need of helping hands to continue its successful program at the local level. Volunteering for this program may be just what you need.

Volunteers are needed from leadership to construction and finish work; however, no special talents are needed to help... just a sincere willingness to reach out to your neighbor and say, "How can I help?"

Habitat for Humanity's mission is to build safe, secure homes for families who just need a hand up. The homes are not given away. Many hours of "sweat equity" must be performed by each new homeowner on his or her own home and/or that of another Habitat homeowner. Each new homeowner also makes house payments.

Materials to build new homes or refurbish existing homes are sometimes donated, or purchased by Habitat at reduced cost. Licensed builders donate their time and expertise to the building projects. Donations are essential to keep the program running and are tax-deductible as Habitat is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization.

Many who have experienced working with Habitat for Humanity find it to be the most rewarding time of their lives, and a healthy distraction from their everyday routines and life's troubles.

For more information on how you can get involved in this program to help bring affordable, safe and secure housing to those in need, call the local Habitat for Humanity office at 344-0804.

Michigan Guard units called to duty in Kuwait

Continued from Page 1A

Residents living in the area of Camp Grayling in Crawford County may notice the decrease in training activities at the facility and its firing ranges. About 4,000 less troops are expected to attend annual training this summer at the camp if the war in Iraq demands their support for a longer period of time overseas, as well as stateside.

A 30-percent decrease in training maneuvers at the air-to-ground range near Waters is expected as the A-10 "Warthawks" that normally practice there are currently deployed to Kuwait, supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom. However, Selfridge Air National Guard Base, in Mount Clemens, will continue to send F-16 fighter pilots to northern Michigan for training missions, as well as those from Toledo, OH.

Clarification

A new mailing address for ordering has been provided since an article was published last week announcing the American Legion Auxiliary's campaign to sell "Support Our Troops" bumper stickers for \$3 each and "Blue Star Service Pins" for \$8 each. Mail check or money order in the appropriate amount along with name and address and list of items requested to: American Legion Auxiliary Post #106, 106 James Street, Grayling, MI 49738. For more information, contact Jeri Seltzhofer at 344-2129.

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Viking Band members earn top ratings



Photo courtesy of the Crawford AuSable School District

2002-2003 Grayling Viking Band members who attended the MSBOA State Solo and Ensemble (in no particular order) are: Kip Franklin, Jason Henning, Nick Henning, Coleman Payne, Todd Gaffke, Ken Heinlein, Apryl Rugenstein, Will Brewer, Chris Bonnington, Monica Nemeth, Becky Ramaswamy, Austin Andrus, Nikki Lynch, Jennifer Rusiecki, Jenny Long, Samantha LeMaster, Erica Parker, Jessica Pfaff, Casey Mahaffy, Christin Morrell, Beth Brewer, Charley McNamara, Michael Sayers, Kyle Seewald, Mallory Olson, Anna Lepsy, Heather Stamper, Gail Hilliker, Lisa Adkison, Erica Parker, Jamie Wyss, Kim Long, Chelsea Curriston, Amanda St. Amour, Laura Gorski, Erin Morrell, Ellie Curriston.

Months of practice and hard work paid off March 22 as 35 members of the 71-member Grayling High School Viking Band scored well at Michigan Schools Band and Orchestra Association's (MSBOA) State Solo and Ensemble Festival at Central Michigan University in Mt. Pleasant.

Another facet of MYAF are the ensemble nominations. Ensembles nominated to audition are required to send in an audition tape to the MYAF committee by early April. Ensembles selected perform during the same concert as the All-Star Band and All-Star Orchestra.

Grayling Band members had three events nominated: Kip Franklin and Jason Henning with a clarinet duet, Casey Mahaffy and Ken Heinlein with a tuba/flute duet, and the GHS Clarinet Choir consisting of Jason Henning, Kip Franklin, Jennifer Rusiecki, Anna Lepsy, Beth Brewer, Samantha LeMaster, Chris Bonnington, Christin Morrell, and Jessica Pfaff.

All of these soloists and ensembles are honored just to be nominated for the audition process as only one to two percent of all solo and ensemble participants receive the invitation.

On the basis of their proficiency level and score, student musicians are also invited to perform in the All-Star Band or All-Star Orchestra. They are notified within a week after the State Solo and Ensemble Festival. "We are extremely proud of all of the GHS Band students that performed in the Solo and Ensemble Festival this year," said Janet Gaffke, president of the Grayling Viking Band Boosters.

The Grayling High School Band performed February 22 at the MSBOA District Band Festival in Elk Rapids, where the musicians performed for three judges and one sight reading judge. Pieces performed were "The Earle of Oxford's March" by William Byrd, arranged by Jacob; "Rhosymedre" by Vaughan-Williams, arranged by us."

Students may be nominated to audition for MYAF as a soloist which, after going through a grueling audition process, may be one of four soloists selected to

perform with the Youth Arts Festival Orchestra. Grayling had four events nominated for this honor: Todd Gaffke on alto saxophone, Jason Henning on clarinet, Ken Heinlein on tuba, and Todd Gaffke on soprano saxophone.

In addition to the successes achieved by the high school band, the Grayling Middle School bands are also scoring high. The Grayling Seventh Grade Band, under the lead teaching of Matt Bishop, Associate Director of Bands, and support teaching of David Gott, Director of Bands, qualified for MSBOA State Band Festival to be held the first weekend in May. This is the first 7th grade band from Grayling to qualify for State Band and Orchestra Festival since February, 2000.

The vast majority of seventh and eighth grade band members will participate April 12 in at least one event at the MSBOA Middle School Solo and Ensemble Festival to be held in Kalkaska. These students have been working diligently with their directors and accompanist, Jill Scarzo.

Scarzo has accompanied both Middle School and High School Solo and Ensemble events containing piano parts in selected pieces for many years and is a vital contribution to the success of the students. During her high school band days, Scarzo also was nominated as a soloist for the Michigan Youth Arts Festival.

"We simply could not have the results that we do without her support," Gaffke remarked. "After hearing a great many accompanists at the various festivals that we've attended over many years, Jill's ability to work with and accompany students is superior. Our students and schools are lucky to have such a talented musician working with us."

Band members from both the middle and high schools will be preparing for their upcoming Spring Concerts to be performed a little more than two weeks fol-

lowing the State festivals, and are free to the public. For more information on upcoming events and pictures from past events, visit www.casd12.net and click on "CASD Bands."

Flutist Casey Mahaffy earned a duet nomination to MYFA with tuba player Ken Heinlein (not shown).



Todd Gaffke earned two nominations as a soloist on alto saxophone and soprano saxophone.



Jason Henning and Kip Franklin's Clarinet Duet earned a nomination to audition for MYFA.

lowing the State festivals, and are free to the public. For more information on upcoming events and pictures from past events, visit www.casd12.net and click on "CASD Bands."

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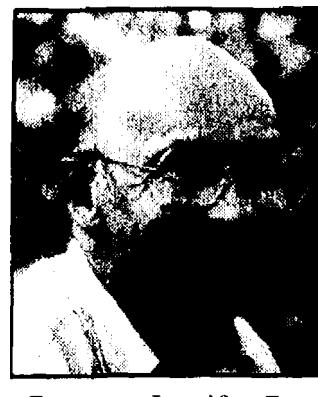
SPECIAL EVENTS
April 4th & 5th - Band "Dirt Poor"
April 12th - DJ
April 25th & 26th - Band "Southbound 73"

SPECIALS
Tuesday - Burger & Draft
Wednesday - Chili Dog & Chips
Thursday - 1/2 Off Appetizers & Schnapps "Karaoke"
Friday - Famous Fish Fry
Saturday - Sizzler Steak, Liver & Onions
Served w/ Salad Bar
SERVING LUNCH & DINNER DAILY

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OPINIONS

Note: For more
'Issues and
Opinions,' see
Page 13A.



ALMANACK

by Richard Milliman

Ideas abound when thinking 'outside the box'

Governor Jennifer Granholm has challenged herself, her staff and all Michiganians to "think outside the box" for ways to help solve Michigan's multi-tudinous problems.

By this, presumably she means not to be hemmed in by past practice or tradition or the usual way of doing things, but come up with startling and new ideas.

With an open mind, wandering around outside the box can be invigorating. Ideas can sprout from anywhere.

For example, even in London, England.

London has a huge problem of traffic congestion. Too many vehicles every day pack the eight square mile central London area.

London Mayor Ken Livingstone went outside the box for an idea.

London has begun charging motorists \$8 per day to drive into central London. The reasoning is that tolls will reduce the number of vehicles on the streets, and thus relieve congestion.

It's too early to tell if the idea will

work. Mayor Livingstone expects his idea to reduce traffic in the center city by 20 percent, and to raise \$208 million a year to invest in public transportation.

There are risks for the mayor, of course. Facing reelection next year, Mayor Livingstone's potential opponents already are damning the idea and promising repeal.

The mayor accepts the political hazards, but is philosophical.

"What's the point of being in politics if you don't do something with your position," he muses.

* * *

BACK IN MICHIGAN, let's take Mayor Livingstone's plan a few steps further outside the box.

Michigan highways are congested and wearing away due to constant use and scarcity of funds for proper and steady maintenance.

More important right now, state government needs more money. Faced with the sacred mantra of "No New Taxes" by political decision makers of both parties,

available alternatives for budget makers are strictly limited.

So how about applying a London Vehicle Toll Plan in Michigan?

Why not charge every vehicle entering Michigan a daily toll? If a driver wants to come into the Water Wonderland state, he/she has to pay a \$10 toll per vehicle.

We could treat every road of every size coming into the state as a toll road, and charge vehicles for using them.

An entry toll would reduce wear and tear on Michigan roadways, and produce a bonanza for tax collectors, and Michigan could balance its budget without chopping all the life juices out of so many programs which are important only to people.

The state could enter a deal with local governments to collect the tolls -- after all, local governments know where all those country roads are located which crafty drivers might attempt to use to escape the toll on main highways. Then the state would rebate to local govern-

ments a percentage of the take, so local governments could replace funds the state is cutting out of revenue sharing to pay for fire protection and police patrols and other essentials of local government.

And if things really go well with the London Plan for tolls on incoming traffic, we also could extend the program to charge tolls on vehicles leaving the state, too. Under the modified London Toll Plan, there might be plenty of those.

Of course, this would not be a new tax, so it should pass muster with the legislature and the governor.

But it's a near-perfect "revenue enhancement." The government can collect from us both coming and going.

So there it is. It's really a lot of fun plodding around "outside the box." Try it sometime.

* * *

FREE SPEECH -- The irony is obvious, but it's important enough to bear repeating.

The City Club of Cleveland recently bestowed its "Citadel of Free Speech"

award to U.S. Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia who promptly ordered TV and radio reporters and cameras to leave the room before his acceptance speech.

That's Mr. Scalia's usual routine apparently. He will allow print reporters to cover his public speeches, as he did in Cleveland, but not electronic media.

The basis for the Cleveland club's selection of Justice Scalia for the award, incidentally, was his votes to permit flag burning and cross burning as expressions of free speech.

His views on the protection of dissent are worthy, in my opinion, but it's difficult for me to fathom his reasoning for banning broadcasters.

Apparently he believes that all media are not created equal.

Richard Milliman is a veteran newspaperman, and a contributing columnist to several Michigan newspapers.

Are you people really serious?

To the editor,

I am writing in regard to the letter about the Father/Daughter Dance. Are you people really serious? Discrimination?

P-l-e-a-s-e!

A great many people put a lot of time and effort into this event. They went out of their way to make this a wonderful time, not only for fathers and daughters, but for girls and any significant male role model in their lives. I'm sure if there was any little girl who really wanted to go, she could find someone to take them.

Are there any little boys in this community who are broken-hearted because they feel left out? I sincerely doubt it.

I only hope the people who were responsible for this event don't feel like all their efforts were in vain. I say rather than put them down, we commend them for the great job! I know that at least two of the people who worked so hard for this event had no daughters to take.

And, no, I had nothing to do with this event!

Kathy Piehl
Grayling

GHS grad writes from Kuwait

To the editor,

My name is SSGT Timothy J. Pernie, United States Marine Corps. I graduated from Grayling High School in 1989, along with my wife, Amy Jo Pernie (Denton). I am currently deployed to Kuwait, awaiting

a war with Iraq. My wife Amy, and my two beautiful daughters are currently residing in our home in Pensacola, Florida. My daughters are Saje (age 10) and Chesney (age four).

I served 11-1/2 years active duty for the Marine Corps. I got out, off active duty, and decided to finish my time in the Reserves. I was deployed all the time while on active duty and it was hard on my family, and I did not think I would be right back to deploying 2-1/2 years later. I got activated on January 15 and left

Pensacola on January 28. My orders are for one year, but I pray I will be home before that.

Amy and I own four dance studios in Pensacola. For those who remember Amy, she was always taking and teaching ballet. She currently has 300 students and a staff of 18 people. I am so proud of her.

Our parents no longer live in the Grayling area, but we still consider it home. My parents, Donna and Patrick O'Grady now reside in Mt. Pleasant. Amy's parents, Morey and Deb Denton, currently reside in Wolverine.

Not sure whether or not the Avalanche still does a section on the military that graduated from Grayling High School. I would have typed it and double-spaced if I could have. Kinda hard in a tent in the mid-

dle of the desert.

If you run a story or article on this, could you please send me a copy of the Avalanche and one to my wife also? Please?

Feel free to put my address in the article... would be great to hear from old friends.

Serving Grayling, Pensacola, and the rest of our country,

Semper Fi
SSGT Timothy J. Pernie,
USMC
Kuwait

Write:
SSGT Pernie T.J. USMC
MWHS-3 G-3
UIC 41002 Box 2506
FPO AP 96614-2506

Editor's note: SSGT Pernie's letter was dated March 15, 2003.

Life's exclusions should not be taken personally

To the editor,

I am writing in response to the letter published last week regarding the Dads and Daughters Dance at the AuSable Primary Primary. I have spoken to friends with daughters who attended with their "dates" and heard how proud they were as well as being able to tell Mom she could not go.

The moms I heard speaking of this were all tickled by the excitement in their young daughters' eyes and voices with the thought of not only a first dance, but special time with Dad all to herself!

It is too bad that some felt it discriminating, which I am sure was not the intent. I, myself, saw it as a chance for dad and daughter bonding.

I know the feeling of being a single mom, as I raised my now grown daughters myself. I never got angry back then when there were special mom and son dinners or father/daughter dances, both of which my daughters or I could not attend if there was no male relative willing to step in and fill the spot for the evening. I don't feel it is really any different from the times my daughters could not go to other functions when money or job or other circumstances made it impossible.

I guess I was just able to explain to them that there were going to be many times in life when they would not be able to do certain things they may want to do, but they should never take it as a personal slight against themselves, such as being the wrong gender, not part of the "in" crowd, or not belonging to certain groups, i.e. Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, etc.

They grew up knowing that it

is merely impossible to do everything, no matter how bad they may want to, or even how bad I would like for them to be able to participate.

I am all for both sexes being allowed to do the same things, but only if they are really capable of doing so. But, at the same time, I feel there are times when it is fun to be different and special and to be able to do things that your brother or sister cannot do, and, yes, even your husband or your wife.

I am also aware there are times when discrimination is truly present. I do not, however, think this is one of those times.

I am sorry some took the innocence of a special evening for dads and their little girls to have a night out as a deliberate act against those not a dad or daughter. I hope the school board will not take that view and discontinue them.

Just a thought to those who felt left out. I used the following ideas with my daughters on occasion and it helped ease their temporary "slight." We would do something they considered special, like a trip for ice cream, or maybe dinner out, but then that was back when times were simpler.

I am also raising my granddaughter, almost 12 now, whom I have had since she was a baby, and I am doing the same with her. So far, it still seems to work. I hope this has given you a different outlook on the dance and maybe a few tips to help the kids and you cope without taking it personally.

Mary Garcia St.
Grayling

Keep your pets home

To the editor,

Would the people in the area of Ingham Street who have a large cat please keep it in the house and teach it to use a litter box.

We do not appreciate it coming up our steps all winter and using our planter box and flower garden for its bath-

room! The urine smell at our front door is a little overwhelming! If you love your pets, they should be kept inside or on restraints when taken for their walks.

The Bovees on Ingham Street Grayling

We must stand united

To the editor,

I would just like to express my belief on this war the United States is engaged in:

United, we stand; divided, we fall.

Does anything else really need to be said?

Written in respect for the troops.

Mark Yarger #252672
Camp Lehman
Grayling

DISCLAIMER

The opinions expressed in the letters and columns on this page are solely those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of The Crawford County Avalanche.

To the editor,

I read with great interest the "Viewpoint" of the Crawford County Board of Commissioners published in the March 27 issue of the Avalanche.

The Commissioners found

time to write what I believe are

the views of the majority of citizens living in the United States of America.

Dave Wyman
Grayling

CRAWFORD COUNTY AVALANCHE
P.O. Box 490, Grayling, MI 49738 • 989-348-6811 • FAX 989-348-6806

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Your views are welcome on the Opinion Page. Letters may be typed or handwritten, but please double-space or use every other line and limit to 500 words.

Every letter must be signed and an address and telephone number must be included to be considered for publication. Letters will not be published without the author's name. Telephone numbers are not published.

All letters are subject to editing and will be printed as space allows.

Deadline for submission of letters to the editor is Friday at noon for consideration for publication in the following week's paper.

Check us out on the Internet at www.crawfordnews.com/avalanche/

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BRIEFS

Choirs to perform Easter Cantata

The Kalkaska Area Community Choir will join with Elk Lake Community Choir to present "Glory to Glory" in an annual Easter Cantata, with four performances scheduled: Sunday, April 6 at 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Elk Rapids, under the direction of Cheryl Knight; and on Palm Sunday, April 13 at 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. at Kalkaska United Methodist Church in Kalkaska, directed by Sharyn Susinko. A free-will offering will be taken at the performances. For more information, call Sharyn Susinko at Pathways Arts Council, (231) 258-8697 or (231) 258-2979.

Dinner to benefit baseball players

A Smelt and Wing Ding Dinner is planned for Wednesday, April 9, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., at Northern Cafe in Grayling, to benefit Grayling High School baseball players who will be attending Baseball Summer Camp at Central Michigan University. Meal price is a donation of \$5 per person; take-outs will be available. Tickets are available from any player or coach, at the Grayling 7-11 store, S&K Foods, the Gray Rock Cafe, the American Legion, or at the door. For more information call 348-1088 or 348-3982.

Transplant support group to meet

The next Transplant Support Group of Northern Michigan meeting will be held Thursday, April 10 at 6 p.m. in the classroom at Otsego Memorial Hospital in Gaylord (Old U.S. 27 North - 825 N. Center Road). Guest speaker will be Dawn Zolnierik, Manager of the Social Security office in Petoskey, who will discuss disability compensation. This meeting is for anyone interested in organ and tissue donation, those who have received or who are waiting for an organ transplant and organ donor families. Any questions regarding the support group may be directed to Bev Cherwinski at (989) 983-4188.

Friends of Crawford Sheriff to organize

There will be a meeting of the Friends of the Crawford County Sheriff's Office on Tuesday, April 8, at 7 p.m. at the Grayling Eagles Hall. The group will begin to formally organize, establish membership and begin to assemble the board of directors. Anyone concerned with the public safety of all who live in the county are urged to attend. For more information, call 344-COPS.

Borchers VFW/Auxiliary to meet

The C.W. Borchers VFW Post 3736 and Auxiliary will meet at the American Legion Post 106 in Grayling on Tuesday, April 8. VFW will meet at 7 p.m., Auxiliary will meet at 3 p.m. This month is election time for the coming year, 2003-04. All members are expected to attend. Any veteran wishing to become a member: the VFW can now accept those who have proof of earning Hostile Fire or Imminent Danger pay and they are welcome to come to the meeting. Veterans need to bring a copy of their pay record indicating receipt of Hostile Fire or Imminent Danger pay. For more information, call Yetive Szkoenicki at 348-9806.

Sheriff to attend Lovells meeting

Crawford County Sheriff Kirk Wakefield will be attending the Lovells Township meeting scheduled for Tuesday, April 8 at 7 p.m. Anyone with questions or comments should feel free to attend this meeting. Sheriff Wakefield will be there throughout the meeting and, if necessary, remain afterwards for additional questions or comments.

Boot Camp Police Academy for youngsters offered

Kirtland Community College's Law Enforcement Department has issued an all points bulletin for youngsters interested enough in a future involving police work to accept a week-long challenge in its renowned Police Academy.

The Law Enforcement Career Academy -- an intensive training course scheduled for July 13-18 -- is aimed at juniors and seniors in high school.

"It'll be a mini boot camp, with each day beginning with PT (physical training) at 5 a.m."

explained Jerry Boerema, an associate dean who oversees

Kirtland's criminal justice program and law enforcement academies.

Students will live in our on-campus housing. They'll undergo firearms training, conduct building searches, study crime scenes, go on marine patrols with divers and search dogs and even learn some fancy marching.

"It's designed for kids who want to be police officers some day, so we're working with school liaison officers to screen serious applicants."

Participants also will have the opportunity to take the Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards (MCOLES) Pre-employment

Physical Agility Test. They also will have the chance to experience split-second decision-making in simulated life or death situations.

At the conclusion of the program, whether or not students still are interested in a career in law enforcement, an advisor from the college will assist them in making the important academic decision that may influence the rest of their lives, Boerema said.

Cost for the one-week academy is \$250, and some scholarship money may be available, Boerema said.

Candidates must be at least 16 years old and have a grade point average of at least 2.0. Along with a completed application, students also must submit letters of recommendation from a teacher and from the community leader such as a member of the clergy, a former employer or a coach.

They also must complete the Physician's Health Screening Form by a physician.

All completed packets must be in the hands of their liaison officers no later than May 1.

For more information, students should contact their liaison officers or phone Kirtland at (989) 275-5000, ext. 348.

RAFFLE WINNERS

Grayling Youth Booster Club
Week ending March 30 - \$25
each: Kary Moshier, Steve Miller, Jody Coors, Vivian Stanton.

Grayling Lions Lucky 13
Winner of \$100 for Week 8 (March 28) is Andrew Ferrigan of Grayling.

Buddy Day is April 7

► Event kicks off 2003 Organ and Tissue Donor Awareness Month

Michigan Secretary of State Buddy Day will be celebrated Monday, April 7, to kick off April as Organ and Tissue Donor Awareness Month.

"Although we don't like to think about it, organ donation can affect us or a loved one at any given time, on any given day," said Secretary of State Terri Lynn Land. "Each person who adds his or her name to the Gift of Life Organ and Tissue Registry brings hope to almost 2,400 Michigan men, women and children waiting for a life-saving transplant. Even tissue transplants are vital for survival.

"Imagine what a cornea transplant means to someone who cannot see or how skin grafts can positively impact the life of someone who has been severely burned.

"I encourage you to join the thousands who have given hope or saved the life of another. Please give so others can live," Secretary Land said.

This year, nearly 100 branch offices will host Gift of Life "Buddies." Buddies are volunteers dedicated to promoting greater awareness of the need for organ, tissue, and eye donation. This year's Buddies have either

received a transplant, are waiting for one, or are a family member or friend of a recipient or donor.

Buddies will be in branch offices from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on April 7 to help distribute organ donor information including donor registry brochures, pencils, and other educational materials.

Branch offices without Buddies will have organ donor information on display.

For more than a decade, the Secretary of State's Office has partnered with the Gift of Life to present Buddy Day. Residents who will not be at a branch office on Buddy Day still have plenty of opportunities to enroll on the Michigan Organ and Tissue Donor Registry.

The Secretary of State web site provides residents with the opportunity to register online at www.michigan.gov.sos. Additionally, enrollment cards are available at any branch office and are mailed with every driver's license and state identification card.

The Gift of Life Agency is Michigan's only certified, full-service organ recovery organization. The agency acts as an intermediary to provide educational resources about donation for donors, recipients, physicians, and hospital staff.

For more information about organ donation, contact the Gift of Life Agency at 1-800-482-4881.

Agency on Aging plans two public hearings

The Region IX Area Agency on Aging will conduct two public hearings on its proposed Multi-Year Area Plan for Fiscal Years 2004-2006.

The plan will address distribution of funds and provisions of services under the Older Americans Act, for the counties of Alcona, Alpena, Arenac, Cheboygan, Crawford, Iosco, Montmorency, Ogemaw, Oscoda, Otsego, Presque Isle, and Roscommon.

A copy of the summary plan

will be available by contacting the NEMCSA-Region 9 AAA, 2375 Gordon Road, Alpena, MI 49707, or call (989) 356-3474.

The public hearings are scheduled as follows:

- Monday, April 14 at 10 a.m., at the Northeast Michigan Community Service Agency, Inc. in Alpena.
- Tuesday, April 15 at 10 a.m. at the Otsego County Commission on Aging, 120 Grandview Avenue in Gaylord.

Farm Park now accepting reservations for groups

Now that the possibility of warmer weather seems a bit more like reality, Wellington Farm Park, near Grayling and Higgins Lake, is taking reservations for group activities.

Last season, the 60-acre living history park played host to two weddings, two family reunions, several company picnics and a host of children's groups, including birthday parties and organization-sponsored youth activities.

Anyone interested in learning more about a group visit to Wellington Farm Park is encouraged to call, toll-free, 1-888-653-3276 or visit the web site at www.wellingtonfarmpark.org.

MSU-E offers free forestry classes

MSU Extension is offering the following Sustainable Forestry Education training programs for logging contractors, foresters, and landowners on Wednesday, April 9:

- Threatened & Endangered Species - from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.
- Visual Management - from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Both classes meet in the basement of the Crawford County Courthouse, 200 West Michigan Avenue in Grayling.

There is no charge to attend the programs and there must be a minimum of five enrolled in the classes or the program will be cancelled.

To register, call the MSU-E Crawford County office at (989) 344-3263 or (989) 3281; or register on-line at www.msue.edu/crawford/sfe.htm. Register by noon on April 8.

Do you have asthma, or do you know someone who does? The Grayling Asthma Project can answer your questions and give you free information on asthma. Call us at (989) 348-0779.

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Partnering with MUNSON HEALTHCARE

BLUE STAR SERVICE PINS

Created in 1917 these lapel tack pins were worn during WW I and WW II to honor and support a family member currently serving in the United States Armed Forces.

Size 1/4" by 3/4", Red/white/blue/gold trim.

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While Supplies Last During April!
McLean's Hardware
209 S. James Street • Grayling • 348-2931
Mon. - Sat. 8 am to 5:30 pm
Sun. 9 am to 2 pm

Due to physical size, merchandising policies and manufacturer's shortages, some stores may be unable to stock all items shown. However, most items can be ordered by your Ace dealer and a "Rein Check" can be issued assuring you of the sale price featured. Not responsible for printing errors.

The Bible Speaks

Balanced Truth

About 35 years ago I took a college course entitled "Contemporary World Issues." The course consisted of reading various magazines and publications from all over the world and turning in a paper on each one. Our final grade resulted from our ability to rate the philosophy of each writer on a graduated scale from extreme left, to balanced, to extreme right. We were taught that the extreme left led to communist tyranny, and the extreme right led to fascist tyranny. The scale formed a circle with tyranny at the top and the balanced truth or freedom at the bottom with degrees of left and right between. Therefore, one primary objective of the class was to enable us to identify the philosophy of each writer.

I soon discovered that the key to getting a good grade in any college course was not the intelligence of the student, but rather understanding the mind of the professor. What I have since discovered over the years is the fallacy of their entire system. For example, that which was considered balanced truth a few years ago is today called extreme. I remember growing up in a home, church, and community identified politically as Democrat. I grew up as a political liberal. Our daily newspaper was even called the Gibson County Democrat. But today, many of the moral values we all held then are now considered so conservative they are being branded extreme right wing. It is as if the only place of balance in the whole

world is that position which keeps moving slowly but deliberately toward Globalism and Marxism. We are becoming like the proverbial frog placed in a pan of cold water with the fire turn on beneath us. We sense what is happening but are too entranced and ignorant to seek deliverance.

We have been deliberately programmed to think within our pan or box. Yet, many of us have discovered and still believe the real world of balanced truth is centered in God and His revealed truth in the Bible. The Bible is the only anchor that assures us that our thinking is in balance with the universe God created. Our concept of freedom comes from God. That is why a portion of Leviticus 25:10, "Proclaim liberty throughout all the land" is inscribed on our Liberty Bell. That is why we are "One Nation under God." That is why our motto is, "In God We Trust." That is why we all sing, "God Bless America."

Balanced truth does not come from the polls as most of us were programmed to believe. Balanced truth does not come from world opinion, Hollywood, etc. Balanced truth comes from knowing the creator of the universe and the revelation of truth He has given us in the Bible. Jesus Christ prayed to the Father for His disciples in John 17:17: "Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth." To have balanced truth we must start our thinking with God and His truth.

As we come in contact with various claims of truth around us in the world, we must weigh these claims in the balances of God's revealed truth. We must then accept those things that are consistent with God's truth, and reject those things that are in conflict or contrast to God's truth. All truth is consistent, balanced, and beneficial for our blessings of freedom. God tells us in 1 Thess 5:21: "Prove all things; hold fast that which is good." As we grow in grace and knowledge, we develop a balanced world and life view. Faith in God's Word gives us balance. Pastor B

Please pray for God's blessings upon the ministry of this column and our church Website at <http://www.i2k.net/cba>. We at Calvary Baptist Church invite you to learn more from the Bible about Jesus Christ. Join us in a verse by verse study of the gospel of John each Sunday.

The Bible Speaks is a paid advertisement and does not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of the Crawford County Avalanche.

**FREE FREE
BIBLE CORRESPONDENCE
COURSES**
Send name, address, and age to
Calvary Baptist Church
6504 West M-72, Grayling, MI 49738
Call (989) 348-8356 or 348-9220

Visit Dead Sea Scrolls exhibit

Travel to Grand Rapids with the Michelson Singers to see the Dead Sea Scrolls, an exhibition of Biblical proportions.

The day trip, scheduled for Tuesday, April 29, includes deluxe motorcoach transportation from Grayling to Grand Rapids, admission to the Van Andel Museum Center and Dead Sea Scrolls exhibit, admission to Meijer Gardens and the Chihuly Exhibit, as well as dinner at the Cadillac Grill. Cost is \$70 per person.

Seats are limited, so early registration is encouraged.

All proceeds from the tour will help defray the expenses of the Michelson Singers when they travel to Vermont in June to represent their church and their community at an international choral festival to be held at the Von Trapp estate.

For more information, itinerary, or to register, call 348-2974 or 1-888-653-3276; or register at Michelson Memorial United Methodist Church on Michigan Avenue in Grayling.

SENIOR CITIZEN NEWS

by Nova Anderson

Join us for a meal, either at noon or 5 pm weekdays except Friday, there is no evening meal. Please try to call for reservations at (989) 348-7123 or 1-888-355-4500, so that we know how many to plan for. The Center is located at 308 Lawndale, behind Burger King. Walk-ins are welcome.

April:

2 - Baked Chicken/Brown Steak; Hearing Clinic by appointment; Bible Study at 10:30; Stag Cards at 12 noon.
3 - BBQ Beef/Pork Chops; Blood Pressure/Blood Sugars at

11 a.m.; Crafts at 1 p.m.; Attack UNO at 5:30 p.m.

4 - Spanish Rice/No Dinner; Pantry Bingo at 1 p.m.; 80 Cent Rummy at 1 p.m.

8 - Sweet & Sour Meatballs/Chicken Kiev; Speaker Rosalind at 12 noon; Euchre Club at 1 p.m.; Housing Board meets at 6:30 p.m.

9 - Mac & Cheese/Swiss Steak; Commodities at St. Mary's; Exercise and Line Dancing at 10:00 a.m.; Bible Study at 10:30 a.m.; Birthday Dinner at 5:00 p.m.; White Elephant Auction at 5:30 p.m.

Up coming events: Sunday, April 6, Sunday Brunch 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. - Waffles, Ham, Eggs and Fruit Bar.

Celebrate 30 years with us on April 10.

Card of Thanks

I would like to thank the Grayling Community for the recent outpouring of concern, love, and support for both myself and my family during my recent illness.

I am proud to have been and thankful to continue to be a member of this wonderful community.

Paul G. Pahssen

Sometime on Saturday afternoon, March 29, Russ Stevens and Lou Knack sat down to play some cribbage at Stevens Family Circle. They wound up playing four games and Lou just barely saved getting skunked in the second game. However, Stevens did end up skunking Lou in games one, three and four. (Darwin's going to love this.) Knack threw the deck of cards away.

This Church Directory is sponsored by the following community-minded individuals and businesses

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503 McClellan • Grayling
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Phone 348-2114

First Baptist Church of Frederic

Pastor Dale Hammond

Sunday School 9:45 am
Morning Worship 11 am
Evening Worship 6 pm
Wednesday Bible Study 7 pm

St. John Lutheran (ELCA)

Appointed Pastor Victor Slayman

710 Spruce Street
348-5224
Sunday School 9:15 am
Sunday Worship 10:30 am

Community of Christ

Pastor Carol Stephan

North Down River Rd. at
1030 Glenn Rd. • P.O. Box 1188
Church School 9:45 am
Preaching 11 am
Midweek Service Prayer 7 pm

Friendship Church

A Christian Reformed Ministry

Rev. Dick Oberg, Pastor
415 Ohio North, Gaylord

Sunday School 10 am
Morning Worship 11 am
Evening Worship 6 pm
Mid-Week Services 7 pm

The Church of Christ

with the Elijah Message

Pastor Paul Rolfe

7662 Kelly Ave., Frederic
Sunday 10 am & 7 pm
Wednesday 7 pm

Calvary Baptist Church

Dr. Robert Barnett, Pastor

M-72 West
Sunday School 9:45 am
Morning Worship 10:30 am
Evening Worship 6 pm
Mid-Week Services 7 pm

Luzerne Baptist

Pastor James Durfee

2247 Durfee Lane
Sunday School 10 am
Sunday Morning Worship 11 am
Sunday Evening Worship 6 pm
Wednesday Bible Study 7 pm

Church of Christ

Scott Hoffer, Pastor

Old US-27 at Skyline Rd.

275-8613

In Search of the Lord's Way

Sunday Mornings on

TV 29 & 8 9 am

Sunday Classes 10 am

Sunday Worship 11 am

Sunday Evening 6 pm

1st Sunday Evening of every month

there is no service.

Wednesday

Mid-Week Bible Study 7 pm

Abundant Life Tabernacle

Pastor Lyle Studer

211 Shellenberger St.

348-5325

Sunday School 10 am

Sunday Worship 11 am & 6:00 pm

Wednesday Evening 7 pm

Grayling Baptist Church

Affiliated with S.B.C.

Pastor Terry Colby

705 Madsen St. • Grayling

348-2557

Sunday School 9:45 am

Morning Worship 11 am

Evening Service 6 pm

Wednesday Service 7 pm

Bear Lake Christian

M-72 & East Bear Lake Rd.

Sunday School 9 am

Sunday Service 10 am

Westminster-By-The-Lake

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Worship with us in a beautiful

outdoor chapel every Sunday

Sunday Worship 11:00 am

(Just east of Ralph MacMullan Conference Center)

Open House and Pig Roast

July 14, 11-5pm

Unity

Church of Today North

Terry Dickinson, Minister

Forbush Corners, Frederic

Call D. Storing (989) 732-6364

Sunday Services 9:00 am

St. Martins Ev. Lutheran (Wels)

Herbert R. Filter - Pastor

For information call 275-5443

Services held at the

Roscommon Community Center,

Sunday mornings at 9 am,

510 South St., Roscommon, MI.

Harvest Time Church of God

Pastor Fred Coates

GMS names Students of the Month for March



Grayling Middle School Students of the Month are, from left: (front row) Elizabeth Dandy, Jacob Apps, Dorothy Zarnick, Joelissa Kolka, Paul Brown, Vilai Thao, Mike Smith, Cassie Pizzi, Jessica Ramsey, Hilary Warsko; (second row) Dylan Nye, Nick Steffey, Stevie Stromski, Danielle Williams, Abby Sheeler, Jordan Renaud, Reid Holzbauer, Ashley McMann; (back row) Josh Bofysil, Dale Mayhew, Matt Letts, Andy Yost, Nikki Dedafoe; not pictured - Peter Alexander, Joe Emmons, Jordan Klemish, Alexis Myers, Ray Roberts.

THE POWER SPOT

News from Grayling Elementary & AuSable Primary Schools

The February Safety Patrol Student of the month was Michael Hunter.

The second grade and 2/3 multi-age classes in the AuSable Primary participated in a natural history program from Mackinac State Historic Parks outreach program. The presentation was titled Water, Woods, and Wildlife. It focused on the wildlife of Michigan and their habitats. The presenter incorporated food chains and webs in the program as well as hands-on experiences with the skulls and furs of various animals. He also included information on the watershed of the Great Lakes. The students found the presentation entertaining and it reviewed many concepts learned in the science unit.

Mrs. Lisa Northrop is rewarding her third grade students with a pizza party for all students who have mastered their 0-5 multiplication facts.

Reading is like basketball. The only way you make baskets is to practice. The only way to become a good reader is to practice your reading. Miss P. Williams challenged her first graders to read a total of 100 books for the month of March.

Grayling Elementary celebrated National Reading Month with

a calendar of activities. Reading month activities included community "Mystery Readers" each week and D.E.A.R. (Drop Everything And Read) at a different time each day. On March 5 the students and staff attended a Reading Month Kick-Off assembly organized and hosted by Title I teachers Mary Smock and Kay Avery-Lee. Three students were chosen to read an essay about their favorite book at the assembly. Third grader Josie Swander shared the following review.

My favorite book is called *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*. I like that book because the illustrations are beautiful and the title page has little colorful circles all over it. When the book starts, the caterpillar is an egg. At the end of the book he eventually turns into a butterfly. It inspires me to know more about all of the creatures in this world.

The fourth grader, Nathaniel Robert Heichel reviewed an *American Chillers* book.

Have you ever read an *American Chillers* book before? My favorite book is the *American Chillers*, *The Michigan Mega-Monsters*. This book is about Michigan Mega-Monsters. Also it is about three good friends named Leah, Sandy and Rick. They are ready for a

fun and exciting week. It is also about camping, swimming, canoeing and having fun. Later on in the book Leah, Rick and Sandy find out that the legend of the Michigan Mega-Monsters is not real at all. My dad and I think everyone should read this book because it is really good and it has a good plot.

Fifth-grader Carl Gaff provided the last book review.

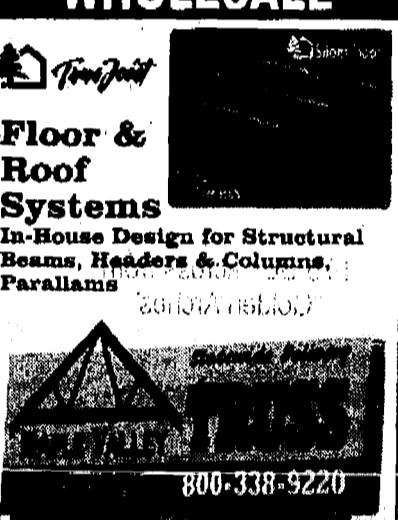
Do you know what? The book *Sideways Stories from Wayside School*, written by Louis Sachar, is a great story for kids who simply love funny books. I say that because *Wayside School* is a very funny book. Every chapter is about a student in Mrs. Jewel's class. I like reading each chapter because you never know what to expect.

I laughed a lot reading this book, and I know you would too. *Wayside School* would be a good book to make connections with. Some people like me don't use much common sense either. I decided to read this book because my sister told me to. So, when I started to read it, my imagination jumped right into gear. I imagined what a 30-story school would look like, I also imagined what a person with three ears would look like.

When I was done with the

book, I found something out even cooler. Louis Sachar wrote two more books about *Wayside School*. I knew I really wanted to read them, and after reading this, I know you will want to also. So go ahead and dive into books with *Wayside School*.

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First Legislative Sportmen's caucus held

The Michigan Legislative Sportmen's Caucus held its first meeting on March 13 and discussed ways to protect Michigan's outdoor heritage.

A bi-partisan organization to protect the rights of hunters, anglers and trappers, the sportsmen's caucus has 87 members in the Michigan House and Senate, which makes it one of the largest bi-partisan caucuses in the legislature.

Sportsmen in Michigan spend more than \$2.06 billion annually, creating \$133 million in state tax revenue. Sportsmen sustain 33,000 jobs for Michigan residents.

The organization is patterned after the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus, which is the largest caucus on Capitol Hill.

"Outdoor recreation, whether it be hunting, fishing, or trapping, is a vital part of the economy."

my and everyday life for northern Michigan," said 36th District Senator Tony Stamas (R-Midland). "I am happy this caucus has been formed to actively promote these issues. I look forward to working with my colleagues to ensure that the sporting community's rights are protected."

"The sporting community in Michigan should be excited about the establishment of the Michigan Legislative Sportmen's Caucus," said Brad

Rowse, state caucus coordinator of the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation. "With a strengthened voice created by the establishment of a sportsmen's caucus, over 1.7 million sportsmen and women throughout Michigan will now have a channel to proactively address their issues in the legislature."

The caucus meetings will take place on a monthly basis and features speakers from various Michigan conservation and outdoor recreation organizations.

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lenges of another day's work.

If you have a posture problem, if your spinal column is out of alignment and causing painful pressure on nerve centers, you may be able to benefit from treatment that brings welcome relief from pain and other discomfort.

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National Guard wrestles with budget cuts, war

by Luke Pickelman
Capital News Service

said. "And federal funding is limited."

LANSING -- War in Iraq and a budget shortfall have made times tough for Michigan's National Guard.

The Department of Military and Veterans Affairs receives 40 percent of its funding from the state and the other 60 percent from Washington. The department budget for 2003 is about \$103 million.

In the midst of the state's budget crisis, the department is looking for other sources of revenue, said Joel Wortley, its chief financial officer. "We are losing a portion of our state funding," he

said. "For example, the department's Challenge Program, which is an 18-month military-style program for high school dropouts, will lose more than \$1 million, said Wortley. The state works with the federal government to jointly fund the program.

Other than the \$1 million lost for the Challenge Program, Wortley said he is unsure how much more the department may lose from state funding.

"If we wanted more federal money, we'd have to match that," he said. "And we can't."

Wortley said that the depart-

ment is looking for possible donations from the Kellogg and Mott foundations to replace money cut from the state budget.

"Pretty much anywhere we can get money," he said.

The state has no plans to close or consolidate any of its 50 armories, including one in Manistee. Armories house a military unit's arms, equipment and administration, as well as serving as training facilities. They are funded entirely by the state.

The duties of members of the Army National Guard and the Air National Guard are not much different from those of military reservists in Michigan, said

Capt. Dawn Dancer, public affairs officer for the department.

"Really they're the same," she said. "But the National Guard has a dual mission: The governor can call us to state duty and the president can call us to federal duty."

Michigan's National Guard has 1,500 members deployed in support of both Operation Noble Eagle and Operation Enduring Freedom. Noble Eagle constitutes stateside security, and Enduring Freedom is overseas. Three hundred members are in Iraq now, with 500 more waiting for their orders, Dancer said.

"We're still beefing up the security here at home," she said. "The 500 waiting haven't gotten the final orders, but are ready to go."

The reserves aren't affected by the state budget crisis because they are fully federally funded, said Lt. Col. Brenda Jenkins, a public affairs officer for the Army Reserves based in Minneapolis, headquarters for Michigan's reserve region.

"We don't receive state funding," she said. "But we do put money back into the state's economy through civilian and personnel payroll, contracts for facilities, services for the facilities and supplies from local vendors."

In 2002, the U.S. Army Reserves spent more than \$58 million in Michigan, Jenkins said.

In Michigan, the Army Guard has 8,600 members and the Air Guard has 2,700. The conflict in Iraq and the deployment of troops have many on edge, Dancer said. "A lot of people are anxious right now."

In addition to the 50 armories, the National Guard has three air bases and two Army training facilities, one in Grayling and the other at Fort Custer, west of Battle Creek. The air bases are located in Battle Creek, Mount Clemens, and near Detroit.

At a time of frequent terror alerts, the National Guard has become extremely important, aiding at border crossings and airports, said Col. Mike McDaniel, Gov. Jennifer Granholm's adviser for homeland security.

"Homeland security used to be a subset of a subset before this," he said. "It's fairly safe to say another terror attack will happen. We need to assure the public we are doing our job."

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Chicago, Ill. - Beltone has announced an interesting free offer to those who have trouble hearing conversation clearly. Beltone will mail a free non-operating model of one of their smallest canal hearing aids to anyone requesting it. The model is not a real hearing aid, but it does show how small better hearing can be. Many hearing problems can be helped. Find out today how Beltone's tiny digital hearing instruments can help you hear better and enjoy life more. The benefits of hearing aids vary by type and degree of hearing loss, noise environment, accuracy of hearing evaluation, and proper fit. So make sure you get hearing help from a name you can trust. Write for your free sample today. Send your name and address to Department 910, Beltone Electronics, 4201 West Victoria Street, Chicago, IL 60646-6772. David A. Beattie ©2000, Beltone Electronics Corporation

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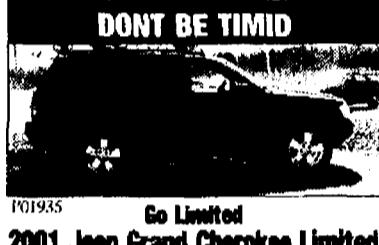
Jeep



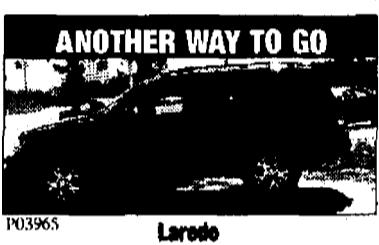
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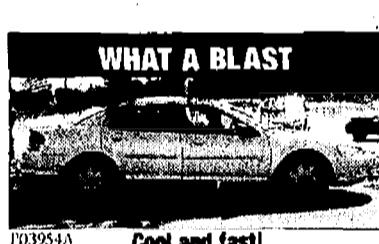
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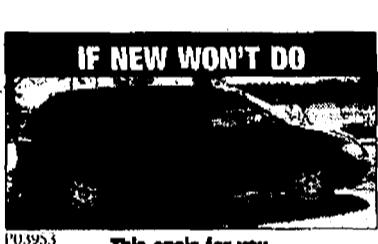
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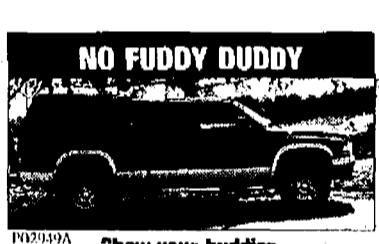
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V-6, message center, one owner.
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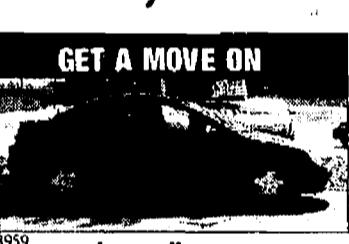
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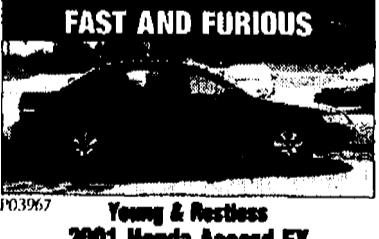
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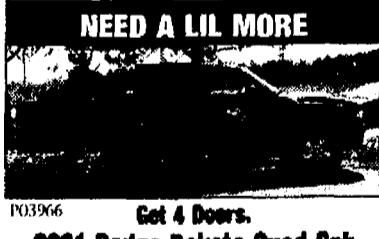
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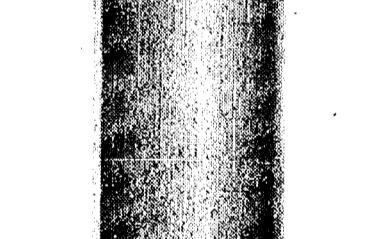
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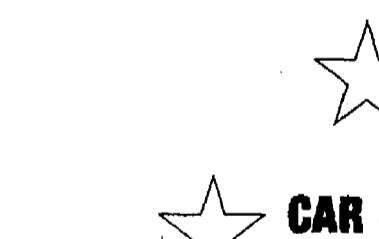
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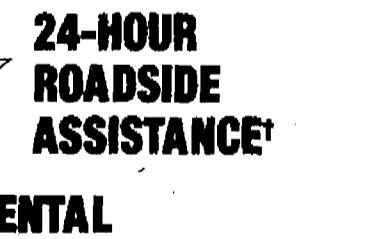
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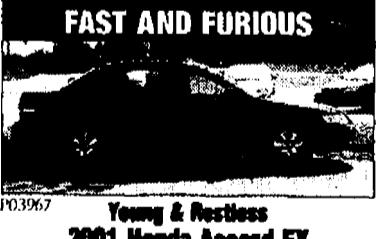
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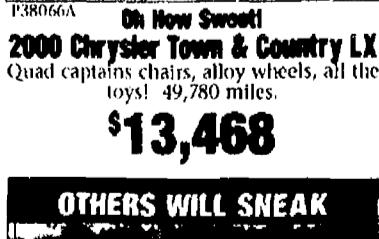
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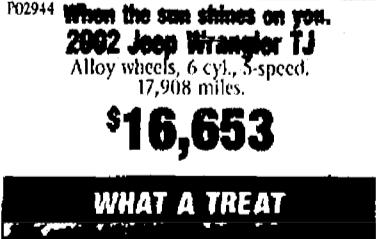
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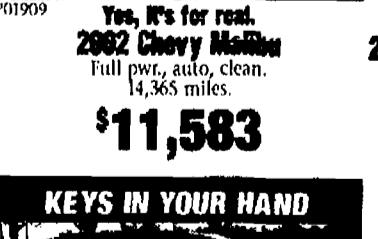
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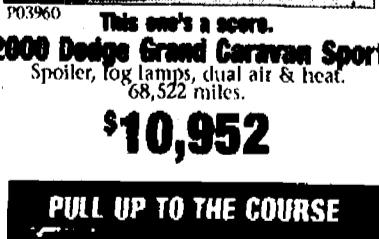
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Local businesses expect little change this tourist season

by Corbin Sullivan
Capital News Service

LANSING -- Tourists might not be traveling far this summer, but Grayling area businesses aren't worried.

The ongoing economic crisis in Michigan, combined with high gas prices and the Iraq war, may keep tourists closer to home, said David Lorenz, the managing director of Travel Michigan. So, he said, the state is trying to promote short-distance travel as a way to boost local economies.

"One of the ways to help the economy is to encourage travel within the state," Lorenz said. "We reach for the low-hanging fruit first to be more efficient."

Tourism is the Grayling area's lifeblood, especially summer tourism, so anything to keep visitors coming despite nationwide financial strife is welcome, said Kathy Thomas, the office coordi-

nator for the Grayling Chamber of Commerce.

"We depend on tourism quite a bit," Thomas said adding that it's hard for people who grow up in Grayling to find work unless they work in the tourism industry.

Thomas said there has been a steady gain in tourism in the past few years, and predicted that this summer won't be a letdown. The Chamber of Commerce will rely on repeat visitors and the state's campaign for in-state tourism to keep the local businesses happy.

"I think we might see a little effect, but we always have people that want to be here for our events, and they will return," Thomas said.

The AuSable River Festival at the end of July is the largest summer event in Grayling, attracting up to 30,000 out of the 50,000 people who are expected over the entire summer. Local businesses

depend on the festivities for a sizeable profit.

Penrod's AuSable Paddlesports Canoes & Kayaks is one of four canoe liveries that sit on the AuSable in a line, waiting each summer for tourist dollars to roll in. It hosts the time trials for the river festival's canoe marathon, a grueling 120-mile overnight race.

The owner, Jim Humes, said the phones already are ringing for cabin, canoe and kayak reservations for the entire summer.

"Since January the phone calls have been increasing by the day as it gets warmer," Humes said.

He welcomes a shift to more local tourists, as long as they keep on coming.

"When gas prices go up, people tend to stay more local," Humes said. "Instead of going west, they stay more in a three-hour radius, and that's great for me."

Hartwick Pines State Park is another tourist destination in the

Grayling area that will have to depend on in-state tourists. Craig Kasmer, a park interpreter, isn't as optimistic about the number of visitors as the business owners in Grayling.

"The trend in the recent past has actually been going down, especially since 9/11," Kasmer said. "With the economy the way it is, we hope tourism doesn't dip down too much."

Kasmer did note an increase in Northern Michigan resident tourists in the past year, and said it's not only a smart move for them, but also a benefit to the park.

He said, "Michigan's parks, lakes and rivers make cheap, easy vacations."

"Instead of taking a vacation to Florida, I would think more people would stay in the confines of Michigan, and we encourage that."

He said, "Michigan's parks, lakes and rivers make cheap, easy vacations."



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Fly shop history featured in northern publication

by Cheryll Ruley
Staff Writer

Great Lakes Energy's magazine, *Country Lines*, recently featured the history of the Fly Factory in Grayling -- the oldest operating fly shop in northern Michigan.

The article gives a detailed history of the business on the banks of the AuSable River from its early days in 1876 through the early 1900s, when Chief David Shoppenagon served as a hunting and fishing guide for lumber buyers and visitors to Grayling, to its later addition of canoe rentals in the mid 1930s under the ownership of "Sailor Bill" Huddleston, to 1945 when the business was purchased by Ray Snider and became Ray's Canoe Livery and Fly Factory.

By 1949, the Fly Factory was known to anglers as far away as

England and California. Snider's ownership was followed by that of Al and Cappy Westervelt, and in 1979, the Southard family took ownership when the Westervelts retired and continue to run the business to this day.

The article also discusses operator Steve Southard's concern for keeping the AuSable River preserved for future generations and the livery serving as the starting point of the annual Weyerhaeuser AuSable River Canoe Marathon, as well as the site of the annual Trout Bum BarBQ -- a major fund-raiser for Trout Unlimited.

"This river has been good to all who operated this business. It's our obligation to be good to the river," said Southard in the article published in the March 2003 edition of *Country Lines*.

RSVP holds first advisory group meeting

NEMCSA's Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) of Crawford and Roscommon Counties held its first community advisory group meeting recently at the AuSable River Center's RSVP office in Roscommon.

Participants represented RSVP volunteers, sites and staff. The group's representatives are from the health community, education, environmental and emergency management sectors of

both counties.

An overview of NEMCSA's programs was presented and the role of a community advisory group, the changing role of volunteers, and the needs and common challenges faced today in communities were discussed.

RSVP provides meaningful volunteer opportunities within their communities to anyone over 55 years of age. For more information on RSVP, contact Carol at (989) 275-1717.

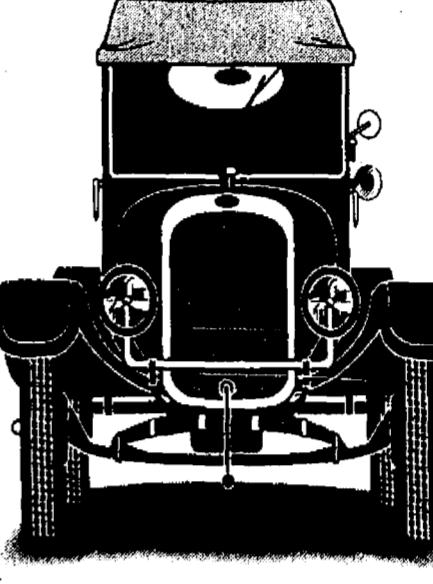
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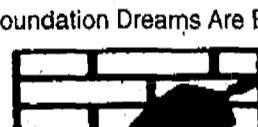
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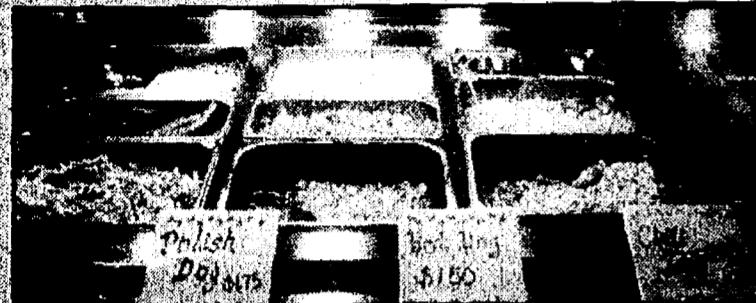

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Forum geared to bring employers, local resources together for dialogue

A consortium of state, regional and local economic development organizations are hosting a day-long forum on workplace issues faced by our region's employers.

The forum, titled "Investing in the Future through Your Employees: Best Practices and Opportunities," will feature speakers and panels covering the legal aspect of hiring, discipline and discharge, recruiting, hiring and retaining employees, and workplace safety.

The forum will be held on Friday, May 2, from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., at the M-TEC at Kirtland-Gaylord.

Laura Budreau, Program Director of Michigan Works!, said the idea for the forum resulted from the need of local employers to know what resources are available to them.

"This forum will provide employers not only with a legal perspective on employee issues, but also new skills and techniques to identify dedicated and dependable employees during the hiring process," Budreau said. "We also want people to know and be aware of resources in our community and utilize those resources to help them be more successful."

The morning session on May 2, titled "Ask the Lawyers," will feature a presentation on hiring practices and discipline policies followed by a Question and Answer period, allowing participants to ask questions about the legalities of these issues as they pertain to their own businesses.

In the afternoon, participants will have a choice between two panel discussions: "Placement

and Retention Issues" or "Workplace Safety Issues."

This program is sponsored by Michigan Works!, Otsego County Economic Alliance, Michigan Department of Career Development — Michigan Rehabilitation Services, M-TEC at Kirtland-Gaylord and 1st National Bank of Gaylord.

In addition to the speakers and presentations, a resource expo will give employers a chance to view available resources and network with other business professionals.

Continental breakfast and lunch will be included in the \$20 registration fee. Registration deadline is April 15 and space is limited.

For more information, call Luann at (989) 705-3605 or e-mail to: wessels@kirtland.edu.

Realtors receive top company awards

Realtors of RE/MAX of Grayling were recently honored by the RE/MAX Real Estate System for outstanding sales and service in 2002.

They received their awards at the RE/MAX of Michigan Annual Regional Conference held February 6-8 in Traverse City.

Craig Hinkle was awarded the dignified Platinum Club Award. In 2002, 65 Associates in the RE/MAX of Michigan Region achieved this status, representing the top six percent of the Region.

Gary Boyd and Tom Slavens were honored with the esteemed 100% Club Award. This award is based on sales production for the year. In 2002, only the top 26 percent of Associates affiliated with the Region qualified for the 100% Club Award.

Charlene Scheer was awarded Executive Club honors. In 2002, 11 percent of all Sales Associates affiliated with the Region qualified for this club level.

Fred Fisher was awarded President's Club honors. In 2002, 15 percent of all Sales Associates in the Region qualified for the President's Club.

"The number of award winners from this office is a testament to the hard work of everyone on the RE/MAX of Grayling team," said Michel Metzner, Regional Director of RE/MAX of Michigan.

"RE/MAX of Grayling is a large part of the success that the RE/MAX real estate network enjoys in Michigan."

Local unemployment continues to climb

by Susan Warrington
 Staff Writer

Residents of Crawford County are aware of the tough economic times the nation and this area are experiencing. This area has not yet turned the corner evident in the unemployment statistics available from the Michigan Department of Career Development.

As of January 2001, the unemployment rate in the county was 7.3 percent of a labor force of

5,550. By January 2002, the unemployment rate had moved up to 9 percent of a labor force of 5,575.

Now with a labor force of 5,600, Crawford County is experiencing an unemployment rate of 9.9 percent.

The unemployment rate in the county usually declines during the summer months when tourism creates more jobs for county residents. However, the summer of 2002 saw an unem-

ployment rate one to two percentage points higher than the summer of 2001.

Over the last two years, the unemployment rate has been highest in Lovells Township, followed by Maple Forest Township and Frederic Township. Lovells and Frederic Townships have seen the greatest jumps in unemployment in that time also.

As of January 2003, the latest period for which statistics are available, only the relatively low unemployment rates in Grayling and South Branch Townships keep the unemployment rate in the county from being around 13 percent.

With the economic problems faced by both the state and federal governments, the only hope for a decrease in unemployment comes from private industry and tourism.

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Kenquest receives \$6k GLE grant

by Cheryll Ruley
Staff Writer

The Kenquest House, in Grayling, was a recent recipient of a grant from the People Fund of Great Lakes Energy.

In an article published in the January 2003 issue of the electric co-op's magazine, *Country Lines*, it was announced the home for at-risk girls received a \$6,000 grant to help purchase baby food, clothing and supplies for its residential treatment program for pregnant teenagers and teenage mothers and their infants.

"The Kenquest House provides a safe, temporary home for at-risk teenage girls where they receive the humanitarian and educational services they will need to better prepare them for their roles as parents and future adults," Program Manager Pamela Fisher explained in the article.

According to the article, the Kenquest House has, since 1984, helped 142 girls, ages 13-17, and 132 babies, most from northern Michigan.

The non-profit organization is highly dependent on donations of funds and items for babies and toddlers, making the recent grant a very important contribution. Public funds cover the day-to-day expenses for housing, training, and caring for its residents, but no public dollars are available for caring for the babies and toddlers.

A long-term survey conducted in 1992 questioned 25 former clients, selected at random, who had completed the Kenquest House program within the first eight years showed 98 percent of past residents completed their high school education or GED equivalent.

According to the article, the 1992 survey found all were currently employed or enrolled in college courses and 65 percent claimed they were self-supportive and receiving no state assistance.

Daylight Savings Time arrives April 6 at 2 a.m.

Grant brings youth author north

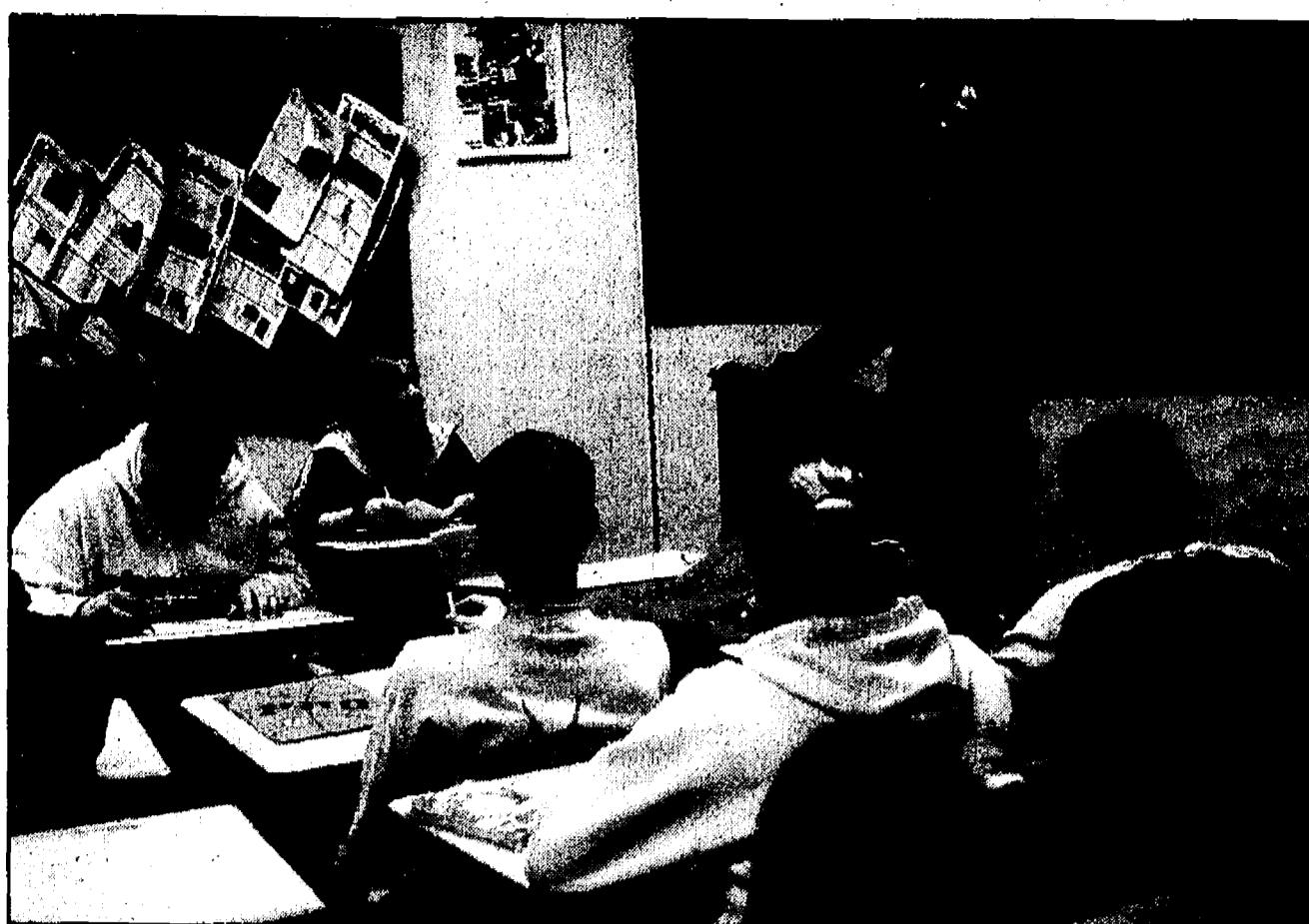


Photo courtesy of Kirtland Community College

Chris Crutcher, renowned author of best-selling books for young adults, answers questions in a classroom of writing students at Houghton Lake High in the teacher Chris Sura's classroom. The celebrated writer recently offered a two-day series of young adult programs that included readings, book signings, a luncheon with educators and librarians and meetings with students at Houghton Lake High, Gerrish-Higgins High, Houghton Lake Alternative, the Nokomis Challenge Center, 2nd Chance Academy and Gerrish-Higgins Alternative Ed. His visit to the area, arranged by the Houghton Lake Public Library, was made possible through Kirtland Community College and a grant from the Kirtland Community College Foundation.

Quarterly wage reports can be filed on-line

LANSING — Michigan has made it faster and easier for employers in the state to file a quarterly wage report required by the state's unemployment program. Employers now have the option of filing their quarterly wage reports through the Internet.

Employers should find the web-based process will also benefit employees by getting their wage information posted into the state's database the day after its submission, and ultimately lead to faster benefit payments.

Every quarter, Michigan employers are required to report the name, Social Security number and wages paid to each of their employees.

Smaller employers mail the information on paper forms called a "Wage Detail Report" (form UC 1017), while many larger employers submit their data on magnetic tape.

Both methods are time consuming for employers and costly to the state. The Bureau of Workers' and Unemployment Compensation (BW&UC) preprints and mails paper versions of the Wage Detail Report every quarter, and then manually data enters the submitted information into its wage record database.

With the new process, the

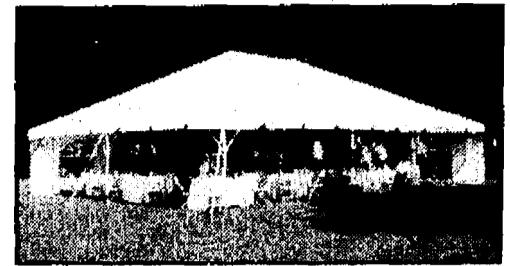
bureau developed three web applications for employers to use. All are on a bureau website at: <http://b2g.unemployment.state.mi.us>.

BW&UC officials report the 1017e application has been so easy to use that most employers who have tested the site have successfully filed their wage reports without requiring any help.

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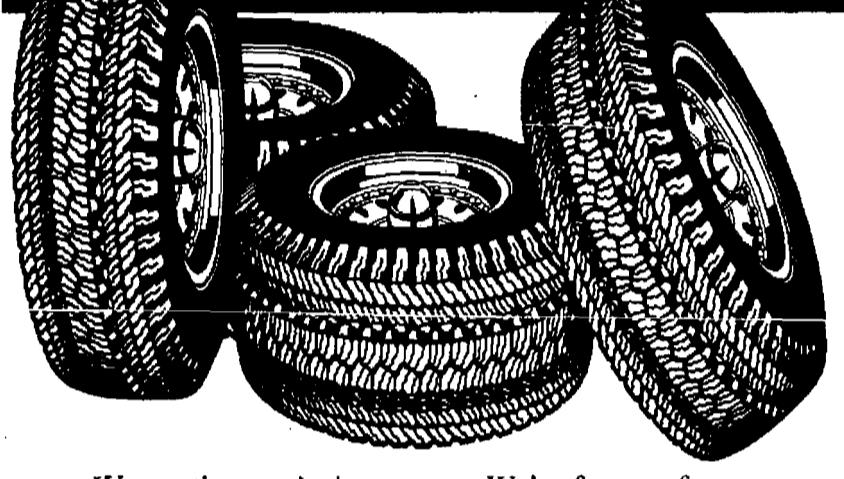
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SHERIFF'S REPORT

Crawford County Sheriff Kirk Wakefield reports his office handled the following 87 complaints the week of March 24-30:

One EMS response, seven traffic accidents, two non-traffic accidents, two traffic policing, one accident - fire, one motor vehicle inspection, five other inspections - liquor, five civil matter disputes - family trouble, six suspicious situations, 11 general non-criminal, three false alarm activation, two assault and battery/simple assault, one aggravated assault - nonfamily - other weapon, two burglary/home invasion, one burglary - entry without force - residential,

one burglary - entering without permission, four larceny, one larceny from building, larceny from yards, one motor vehicle theft, four damage to property, one damage to private property, one damage to property - other, one family offense/abuse/neglect, one resisting officer, 12 public peace/disorderly, one hit and run motor vehicle accident, one health and safety, one invasion of privacy/wiretap, four miscellaneous arrests, one driving violations/DWLS etc., One driving on revoked/suspended/reduced license.

For more information, log on to: www.crawfordsheriff.org.

RANGE FIRING

Range firing scheduled during April 2 - 8, is as follows:

The Range 40 Air to Ground Complex, located north of County Rd. 612, east of Guthrie Lake, south of Old State Rd. 618, and west of County Rd. F97 (Twin Bridge Rd.) will be conducting live and inert bombing operations by the Air National Guard during the following dates: April 1 - 4, April 8.

The Range 40 Complex, located North of County Rd. 612, East of Sherman Road, South of Old State Road 618, and West of County Road F97 (Twin Bridge Rd.). Small arms firing conducted on April 5, 2003.

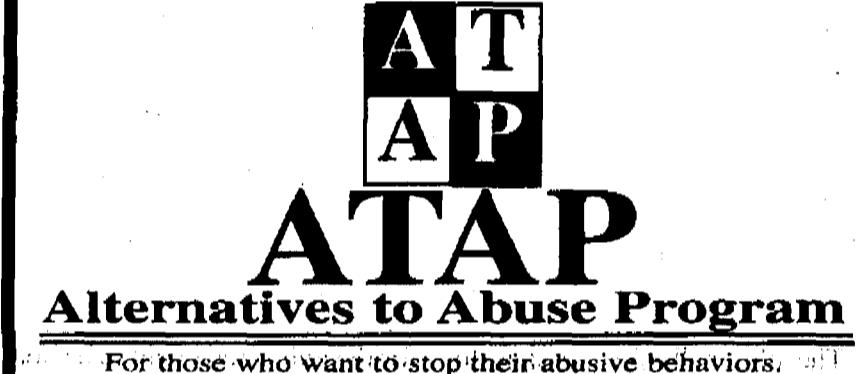
Small arms ranges located West of Lake Margrethe, North of Howe Road, East of the gas pipeline and South of Portage Creek on April 5 - 7.

Range 15, located South of the main post, bounded on the West by Cadillac Road and on the East by Carrier Road on April 6.

Heavy weapons range firing is scheduled from sunrise until three hours after sunset. Occasionally, the Post Commander without additional notice to the public may authorize mission-firing requirements beyond this time. This firing schedule is subject to change without notice to the public.

Contact the Grayling Department of Natural Resources for the areas closed for hunting within the boundaries of the installation. Grayling DNR telephone number: 989-348-6371.

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GRAYLING POLICE REPORT

Grayling City Police Chief Karl Schreiner reports his department handled the following 51 complaints during the period from March 23 - 30:

Five civil, one larceny, one assist other departments, one misdemeanor arrest, two alarms, four suspicious situations, three disturbing the peace, four property damage, one domestic, one assault, one personal protection order violation, 14 unclassified, four juvenile, four private property accidents, one motorist assist, and four traffic warnings issued.

In Memory of

Lorrie Ann Decker-Miller

June 18, 1963-April 5, 1993

God quietly whispered your name,

And then you were gone,

Leaving the rest of us praying

For just one more word...

One more hug...

One more "I love you."

Sharing your life was a gift from God

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With the gift of your memory.

So even though your human arms

Can no longer embrace us,

We are enfolded warmly

in the love you left behind.

And even though your laughter No longer rings in our ears,

It still resonates in our hearts

When we think of you.

These gifts of your memory will be ours forever, And will be guarded like treasure with our souls, As we wait to be united once again In the glory of heaven.

Love Always,
Bill, Dee Decker
Cyndi, Doug, Andrea
and Brittany Yanniello

Daylight Savings Time begins Sunday, April 6 at 2 a.m.

OBITUARIES

Lisa Ann Phillips

Sept. 8, 1965 - March 27, 2003

Lisa Ann Phillips, age 37, of Lovells, died March 27 at Grayling Mercy Hospital. She was born on September 8, 1965 in Saginaw to Robert William Morrell and Shirley Ann Lichon.

Lisa Ann Morrell was married to Roger D. Phillips on September 4, 1987 in Rockford.

She graduated from St. Stephens High School in Saginaw. She was a member of St. Stephens Catholic Church while she lived in Saginaw. She moved to Lovells in 1999.

Lisa enjoyed spring and more mushroom picking with her husband and daughters. She was an outstanding wife and mother who loved the outdoors.

She is survived by her husband, Roger; two daughters, Jessica Lynn and Caitlyn Marie Phillips, her father, Robert William Morrell of Freeland; her mother, Shirley Ann Ignasinski of Alger; two sisters, Lora (Todd) Stull of Edwardsburg and Lois Morrell of Middleton; one brother, Robert John Morrell of Saginaw; one niece and two nephews.

Funeral services were held on Monday, March 31 at Sorenson Funeral Home. Pastor Dean Coursey officiated.

Arrangements by Sorenson Funeral Home, McEvers Chapel, Grayling.

Rudolph P. Harrison

Oct. 18, 1911 - March 29, 2003

Rudolph P. Harrison, age 91, of Houghton Lake died March 29 at Grayling Mercy Manor. He was born on October 18, 1911 in Grayling, to John and Anna (Gorance) Harrison.

Rudolph was married to June Sergeant on October 24, 1940 in Gaylord.

Mr. Harrison lived in the Houghton Lake area for over 60 years. He served in the United States Army during World War II, and worked in the CCC Camps and the National Guard for many years. He was known for his championship boxing in Golden Gloves and CCC Camps.

He is survived by his wife, June of Houghton Lake; three sons, William (Sharon) Harrison of Beaver Creek, Thomas (Peggy) Harrison of Houghton Lake, and Ralph (Jan) Harrison of Houghton Lake; eight grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held on Wednesday, March 26, Reverend Carl Heidel officiated. Burial was at Crestview Cemetery, Markey Township.

Arrangements by Christler Funeral Home, Prudenville Chapel.

Card of Thanks

To all the local businesses and citizens in our community displaying their support for our soldiers in harm's way, a great big heartfelt thank you.

God Bless You,
Jim and Luanne Shirkey



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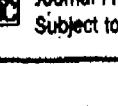
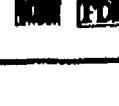
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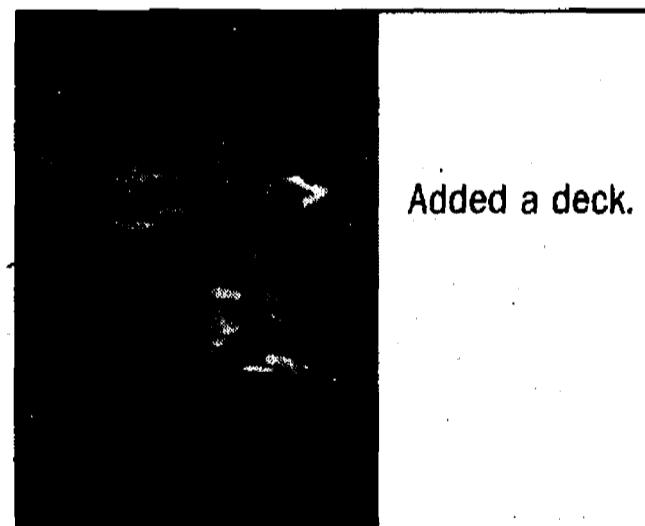
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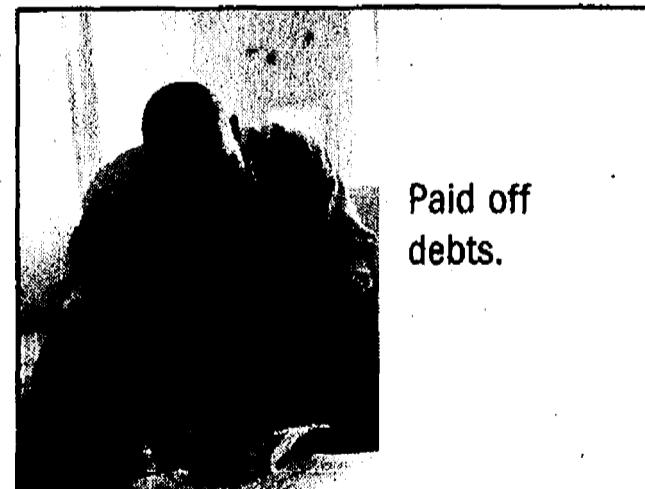


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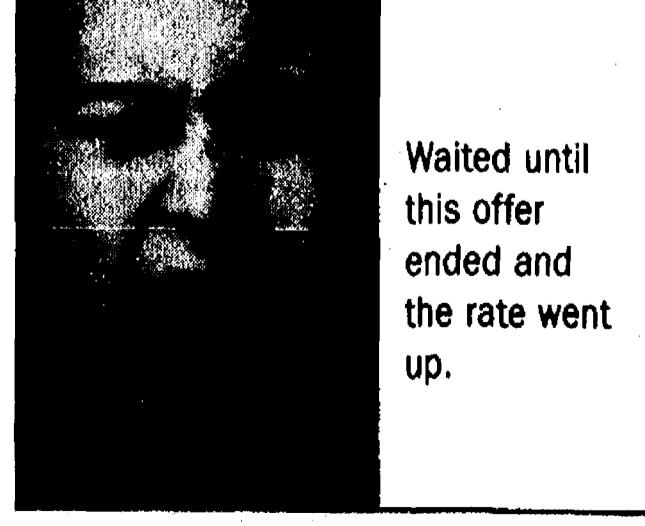
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OPINIONS

Violence + violence = violence

To the editor,

It is with a heavy heart that I write this letter and that is because when and if it appears in print, the violence of the war in Iraq will take center stage in the world.

Perhaps history will record America as an aggressor and Iraq as the victim because of America's rush to war. Diplomacy was not an option for Mr. Bush and his team. World opinion, church and religious leaders' statements about the unjust war mattered not to Mr. Bush. War has become the name of the game.

Terrorism will never be completely eliminated because terror-

ism is an act of violence. It cannot be fought with violence because more terrorism will occur. That is the problem Israel is experiencing now with all its armed might furnished by America. Trying to eliminate terrorism is like standing in a swamp filled with mosquitoes. You may kill a few that land on you, but the others keep coming back to you and you keep getting stung.

War brings death, suffering and destruction and a deep distrust of the conquerors. As America starts the war, it will send its troops to start killing Iraqi soldiers attempting to defend their homeland against the invaders.

Now the killing and the blood letting (has begun) in earnest.

In my last letter, I wrote there would be more terrorist attacks if we go to war in the Middle East and now that has become quite apparent because America is at High Alert as this letter is being written and is in a state of siege.

This President has not only put our servicemen and women at risk of death, but every man, woman and child now face similar risk here in America and also worldwide.

Our government tells us to go on with our lives and activities, but in the back of our minds will be the constant thought: "Will I be next or maybe one of my fam-

The opinions expressed in the letters and columns on this page are solely those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of The Crawford County Avalanche.

ily or friends?"

National landmarks are closed to the public. A simple brush fire in Iraq and the Middle East could change into a roaring inferno. War is indeed hell, my friends. I pray that this armed conflict is short so American and Iraqi lives can be saved.

Remember, in America everyone has the right and obligation to make his or her views known. Being for peace and against war does not make a person less of a patriot. It was dissent that ended the fiasco in Vietnam, after 58,000 lost American lives. May God bless America.

Dennis Meyers

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Legislature to act is now.

Talking about the problem, as I was repeatedly told by residents who attended the Town Hall Meeting in Alpena, is cheap.

The price of prescription drugs for the uninsured ought to be, too,

VIEWPOINT

By State Representative Matt Gillard (D-Alpena), 106th District

How to ease drug cost burden for the uninsured

Legislators and the news media have rightly focused much attention recently on the plight of the almost two million Michigan residents who lack adequate health insurance and often go without prescription drugs because they can no longer afford the cost.

The scope of the problem in northeast Michigan was chronicled recently during a Town Hall meeting I hosted at the Alpena Area Senior Citizens Center along with State Representative David Woodward (D-Royal Oak). Woodward is reintroducing a plan in the Michigan House -- which I am co-sponsoring -- to lower prescription prices and cut as much as \$50 million annually from the state budget.

More than 23,000 of my constituents in the 106th District do not have sufficient drug insurance, according to data from the Michigan Association of Counties (MAC) and the Northeast Michigan Community Health Assessment survey.

The total for the communities of my district include: 8,306 residents in Alpena County; 3,715 in Crawford County; 3,437 in Montmorency County; and 4,572 in Presque Isle County, MAC records show.

Alcona County reports 13 percent of its population -- almost 1,500 residents -- is unable to pay for their prescriptions, while about 1,300 residents in Oscoda County face that challenge, a 2000 state health assessment survey found.

That is unacceptable.

As the wealthiest country in the world, we should certainly find a way to provide for the most basic needs of our citizens.

Seniors on fixed incomes and parents of ailing children should not have to drive to Canada to purchase medicine. It defies logic that a 30-day supply of a name brand drug like Lipitor costs \$118 at pharmacies in Alpena and Grayling, but the

exact 30-day prescription sells for as little as \$53 in Windsor.

Even those who have full health benefits paid by their employer are adversely affected by the soaring fees of health insurance and spiraling costs of prescription drugs.

This somewhat overlooked development in the debate was documented under a headline in *The New York Times* on March 6, 2003, that announced "Businesses Begin to Consider the Cost for the Uninsured."

"With rising health costs squeezing profits, and growing numbers of people without insurance pushing costs even higher, employers are beginning to call for ways to deal with the problem of the uninsured," the article stated.

Employers have long viewed the uninsured as the responsibility of the government.

But some executives and benefits specialists have come to realize the 41 million Americans without insurance are costing them money as hospitals and doctors raise rates to cover the cost of such care.

Employers and managed care companies paid \$1.5 billion to \$3 billion through higher rates to cover part of the \$24 billion hospitals spent caring for patients who could not pay their bills in 2001, based on a study by the Urban Institute, a non-profit research center. In addition, the federal taxes of employers help to pay for programs that cover the greatest share of health costs for the uninsured.

The time for the state

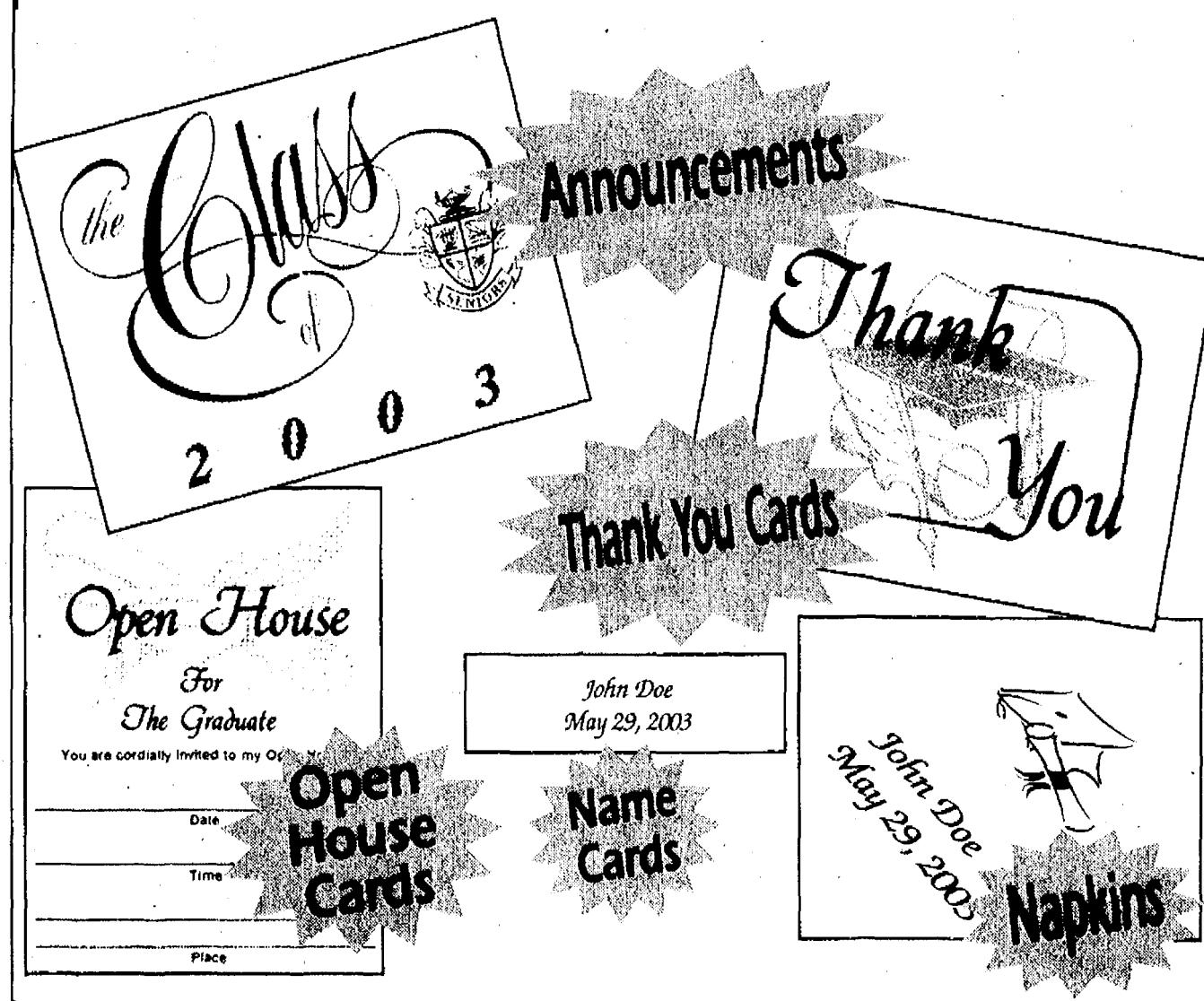
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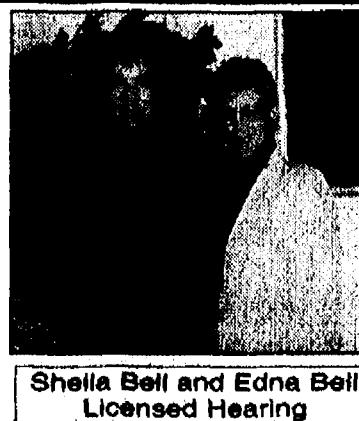
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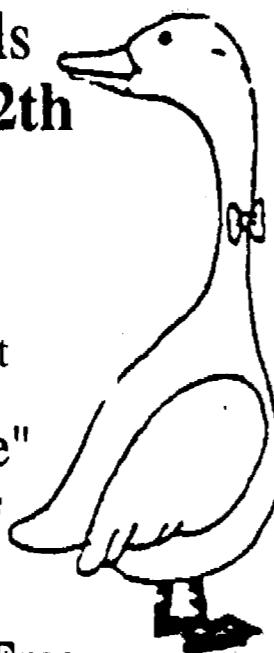
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Dancers begin season of competition

Dancers studying at the Louise Tournaud School of Dance in Grayling began their season of competition March 8-9 at the Waverly High School in Lansing.

Applause Talent Competition, one of the first competitions the dance studio attended back in 1991, has grown to be one of the largest in the United States. "Applause" comes to Michigan three times each year in different cities, allowing teams from all over the state to compete.

There were 28 studios competing in Lansing, including the Louise Tournaud School of Dance. The team took 10 numbers and received four High Gold, four Gold, and two High Silver awards.

Tournaud said she is very proud of all the dancers, especially Kyle Luce who performed a duet with Sasha Latuszek. She said "Brothers Under the Sun" was a beautiful lyrical piece performed in perfect harmony with the whole team.

"We are young this year, with a lot of work ahead of us," said Tournaud. "But, I am confident our team will continue to get better and better while having a lot of fun."

"This last competition was the most fun we have ever had," remarked Latuszek, Tournaud's top dancer at the studio. "Everyone got along great and worked hard to be a true dance team."

Regarding her students' participation in dance competitions, Tournaud explained, "Overall success at competitions relies on a strong bond between dancers, teachers, and parents alike and is not determined by winning or losing."

Competitions are often considered stepping stones for dancers working toward educational and career goals, Tournaud said. "Students who possess drive, discipline and determination to be the best that they can be rely increasingly on regional and national competitions to improve



Photos courtesy of Louise Tournaud Dance Studios

Dancers who were part of the "Brothers Under the Sun" number at the Applause Talent Competition in Lansing last month are, from left: (bottom row) Amanda Moran, Kelsey Gilbert, Kelsey Warner, Valerie Huffman; (standing) Joni Roach, Kyle Luce, Paige Wisniewski (being lifted), Sasha Latuszek, Jessica Holsbeke.

their skills, both technically and artistically. I feel, as a dance teacher, it is my responsibility to open as many doors to my students as possible by exposing the dancers that want the challenge of competition."

Tournaud's dance students' next competition will be "I Love Dance" scheduled for April 6 in Ypsilanti. The team will take down the same numbers as in Lansing and have worked on those judges' corrections. The "I Love Dance" competition has been a favorite of the teams since they started going in 1990. "We haven't missed one yet," said Tournaud.

During National Dance Week, April 22, the team and studio

dancers will be dancing at nursing homes around the area and in West Branch. "It's our way of celebrating something dancers all over the country will be celebrating in their own way," explained Tournaud. "We hope to bring some smiles and happiness to others through something we love so much... dance!"



From the number, "Independent Woman," are dancers Kelsey Warner, Kelsey Gilbert, and Paige Wisniewski.



Kyle Luce and Sasha Latuszek performed a duet at the March 8-9 "Applause" competition.

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Taxpayers: avoid last minute filing

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) is urging taxpayers to avoid the stress of filing their returns at the eleventh hour and offers tips to help taxpayers beat the crush of the April 15 deadline.

"One in five of the nation's taxpayers wait until the final week to file their taxes by the April 15 deadline," said IRS Michigan spokesperson Sarah Wreford. "Last year, 27.1 million taxpayers - more than 20 percent - waited until the last minute to submit their income tax return. The deadline marks the peak in terms of the number of returns filed."

"There is no need to be in line at the post office at midnight on April 15," said Terry Lutes, director, IRS Electronic Tax Administration. "Our best advice: e-file now; pay later. You can electronically file your returns and schedule a payment by April 15. However, it's important that you start now to prepare, gather your documents and necessary forms."

Most taxpayers who wait until the last minute generally owe taxes to the government. Their tax returns also tend to be more complex. The IRS receives approximately 61 percent of the balance-due returns after April 15. In contrast, people who are due a tax refund are early filers. Approximately 73 percent of refund returns are received before April 1.

According to Wreford, here are some tips to make your tax life easier:

Use IRS e-file now; pay later

There's no need to hold onto your tax return just because you owe the government money.

You can file electronically now and set your automatic payment for April 15. You can use IRS e-file either through your tax preparer or purchased software. You can pay through an automatic debit to your bank account. You also can pay by credit card. If the government owes you money, use e-file now, ask for a direct deposit and get your refund within 10 days. IRS e-file is fast, accurate and secure.

An e-filed return is accepted or rejected within 48 hours. It has only a one percent error rate compared to 20 percent for a paper return. IRS e-file, which started in 1986, has handled nearly 300 million tax returns over 17 years without incident.

Free File

The newest way to file your taxes this year is by using the free software offered by one of 17 companies. The software companies are offering free use of their proprietary software and free IRS e-filing to those taxpayers who meet certain criteria.

Taxpayers who meet the companies' eligibility for free services - and most taxpayers will be eligible based on income, age or state residency - can click on the Free

File site through www.irs.gov. Even if a taxpayer is not eligible for Free File, they should still consider using IRS e-file either through their preparer or their purchased software. The IRS already has surpassed its first-year goal of two million Free File returns. Eligibility for Free File is based on income, age, state residency or military service.

IRS.gov and "Where's My Refund?"

The IRS Website is a taxpayer's best source of information 24 hours a day, seven days a week. At www.irs.gov, taxpayers can find just about all the forms and publications they need to prepare their taxes. Taxpayers can find answers to many of their questions by looking at Tax Tips or Frequently Asked Questions. Taxpayers at IRS.gov can click on Free File and prepare their taxes. They also can click on "Where's My Refund?" and find out the status of your refund.

"Where's My Refund?" is the most common question asked of IRS customer service representatives. In addition to the new web site link, IRS also established a new toll free Refund Hotline at 800-829-1954. Since January, the "Where's My Refund?" Web site has logged 8.7 million requests.

Prepare now

Make sure you have all the documents you need. Gather your W-2(s), which show(s) your wages and the state and federal taxes withheld. If you have interest earned on a bank account or money fund, you will need your Form 1099 showing interest earnings.

If you own a home, you will need your Form 1098, which shows the amount of mortgage interest you paid and the amount of real estate taxes paid. If you itemize, make sure you locate the receipts for your deductions such as charitable donations, medical expenses or other items.

Be sure to have all required Social Security numbers for you, your spouse, children or child care provider. Avoid common errors such as a wrong Social Security number, a math mistake or forgetting to sign your tax return.

File for extension

Still need more time? File for an extension, either by using the telephone or electronic filing, before April 15. Last year, 8.2 million taxpayers (186,000 in Michigan) needed the automatic four-month extension. Remember, the Form 4868 is an extension to file a return; not an extension to pay taxes due. You still must pay your estimated balance, if you owe taxes, by the April 15 deadline.

Can't pay? Call the IRS and ask about an installment plan. The Form 4868 provides for an automatic extension to file until August 15.

Kirtland names 51 students to its honors society

Kirtland Community College's honor society, Alpha Omicron Gamma, has 51 new members after a recent honors ceremony, bringing its total membership to 77, the college has announced.

Alpha Omicron Gamma is a chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society.

New students inducted for the Winter, 2003 semester include:

Grayling residents - Bruce Feldhauser, Michelle McGinnis, and Margaret Nephew; Roscommon residents - Levi Burkett, Ashley Kelley, Debra McReynolds, Evelyn Moss, Jacklyn Riley, Jamesina Vetraino, and Amanda Zuker.

The following students from our area, inducted during the fall semester, also were honored:

Grayling residents - Jonathan DeVries, Martin Kroell IV, Stacie Mead, Annette Nettleton, Nicole Persing, Brandy Ritter; Roscommon residents - Kimberly Betts, Dane Booth, William Frampton, Stephanie Kann, Christopher Kuenzer, Angela McGillis, and Ronald Watson Jr.

Phi Theta Kappa is an international honor society specifically for accredited community and junior colleges. Its purpose is to recognize and promote the academic



Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell McMillan

Trisha Pieratt and Mitchell McMillan were married September 7, 2002 at the First United Methodist Church in Mt. Pleasant.

The bride is the daughter of Rick and Kay Pieratt of Mt. Pleasant. The groom is the son of James and Anna McMillan of Grayling.

The Reverend John Boley officiated in the 2 p.m., double-ring ceremony.

The bride wore a white, strapless organza gown with an empire waist, with cascading beads, and a semi-cathedral train. Her flowers were a hand-tied bouquet of lavender roses, purple lisianthus, freesia and limonium.

Matron of honor was Lisa Ervin, cousin of the bride. Bridesmaids were Melissa Pieratt, cousin of the bride, and Melanie Knight, Betsy O'Malley and Wendy McConnell, friends

of the bride.

The groom wore a black tuxedo with a silver vest and tie.

Best man was Mike McMillan, brother of the groom. Groomsmen were Scott Pieratt, brother of the bride, and Steve Branch, Mike Kirmo and Jason Neely, friends of the groom.

Ushers were Chris Wolcott and David Teddy, friends of the groom.

A reception for 325 guests was held at the Mt. Pleasant Holiday Inn following the ceremony.

The couple honeymooned in Traverse City. They reside in Clare.

Both the bride and groom attended Central Michigan University and are physical therapists. The bride is employed at MidMichigan Medical Center's Health Park in Mt. Pleasant. The groom is employed by Evergreen Physical Therapy.

Oberg, Barlick marry



Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Barlick

Kathleen Oberg, of Grayling, daughter of Gerald and Susan Love of Indian River, and Stephen Barlick, of Grayling, son of Paul and Gertrud Barlick of Luzerne, were married on March 22, 2003 at the Abundant Life Tabernacle with Pastor Lyle Studer officiating.

Pieratt, McMillan wed

Society earned the 2002 Pinnacle Scholarship Award from the international headquarters in Jackson, Mississippi. The scholarship award program annually recognizes chapters that increase the acceptance rate of eligible students by 10 percent over the previous year. Alpha Omicron Gamma Chapter inducted 77 new members for the fall and winter semesters.

The \$100 scholarship stipend was presented to the chapter by KCC president Dr. Charles Roric at the formal induction ceremony held at the student center Café on Friday, March 14.

In related news, the Alpha Omicron Gamma Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa International Honor



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WEEKDAY SCHEDULED SERVICES TO:

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Leaves Grayling	5:45 a.m.
Leaves Grayling	6:45 a.m.
Leaves Grayling	9:00 a.m.
Leaves Grayling	11:30 a.m.
Leaves Grayling	3:30 p.m.
Leaves Grayling	5:00 p.m.

LOVELLS

Leaves Grayling	9:00 a.m.
Leaves Grayling	11:30 a.m.
Leaves Grayling	3:30 p.m.
Leaves Grayling	5:00 p.m.

M-72 EAST

Leaves Grayling	6:00 a.m.
Leaves Grayling	7:00 a.m.
Leaves Grayling	9:00 a.m.
Leaves Grayling	11:30 a.m.
Leaves Grayling	1:30 p.m.
Leaves Grayling	3:30 p.m.
Leaves Grayling	5:00 p.m.

M-72 WEST

Demand Response Service	
Calls Worked in Between Other Runs	
BEAVER CREEK & ROSCOMMON	

Leaves Grayling	7:30 a.m.
Leaves Grayling	11:00 a.m.
Leaves Grayling	1:00 p.m.*
Leaves Grayling	2:15 p.m.
Leaves Grayling	4:30 p.m.

*The 1:00 p.m. south run does not go all the way into Roscommon.

To Request Weekday Demand Response Services
Call Dispatch @ 348-5409.

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1. Children less than 4 years of age must be accompanied by a parent, babysitter or other responsible person when riding on a CCTA vehicle.
2. Children, less than 6 years of age, are to be retained on the bus at the point of destination until a responsible adult, or prequalified babysitter walks to the bus and assists the child in exiting the vehicle.
3. A complete copy of related program policies will be provided upon request.

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For information regarding this program contact:

Dave Frederick @ 348-8215

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SCHEDULED FOR April 2003

Trip #1:

Date: Wednesday, April 9, 2003

Destination: Victories Casino - Petoskey

Departs Grayling: 8:30 a.m.

Arrives Back in Grayling: 4:00 p.m. (Approximately)

**Special Event Trips Require: (1) a minimum of twenty-two passengers; and (2) that passengers less than 18 years of age be accompanied by a responsible adult.

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Thursday, April 10, 2003

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The first annual Father-Daughter Dance saw over 420 daughters and "dads" enjoy an evening of fun and special time to be together at AuSable Primary. For the young ladies

whose dads couldn't attend, surrogate dads - uncles, grandpas, and school staff - took over for the evening. The dance was open to girls who attend AuSable Primary, Grayling Elementary and Frederic Elementary.

Don Knapp, physical education teacher at AuSable Primary, presented the idea for the dance. James Brown, who teaches music at the AuSable Primary donated his services as the deejay for the evening. The dance was sponsored by the AuSable Primary/Grayling Elementary Parent Teacher Organization.

Each couple had their photograph taken as a special memento of the evening. Carnations were available for purchase at the dance and the PTO and several businesses donated door prizes.



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Entries will be judged by Milliman Communications in Lansing, Michigan. The writer of the winning entry will receive \$50.00 and will be featured in a special section of the Crawford County Avalanche in the May 8, 2003 edition during National Teacher Appreciation Week.

Deadline is April 28, 2003. Here are some questions to get you started:

Who is the teacher you best remember? Why? Who is the teacher who cared about you as a person? Who encouraged you to do your best, mentored you and helped you become more successful than you ever thought possible?

I want to thank _____ because _____	(Teacher's Name) (Complete in 50 words or less)	for a job well done. He/she deserves the Golden Apple Award

My teacher teaches (taught) _____ during _____ My age _____ (I still in school)		
My name _____	I am (was) a student at _____	(School Name) _____ in _____ (Year)
My address _____ (Street) _____	(City) _____	(Zip) _____ My phone number _____
Entries must be received by 5 p.m. April 28, 2003. Mail or drop off at: The Golden Apple Award, c/o the Crawford County Avalanche, 102 Michigan Ave., P.O. Box 490, Grayling, MI 49738		

Newspapers In Education

Avoid drowsy driving... get enough sleep

► National Sleep Awareness Week is March 31 through April 6

This year's National Sleep

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Awareness Week, March 31 - April 6, aims to encourage people to "Let Sleep Work for You!"

Drowsy and fatigued driving is the primary cause of 100,000 crashes per year, which nationally result in 71,000 injuries and 1,500 deaths, as reported by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). These statistics show there are many drivers who are operating motor vehicles while being too drowsy to drive safely.

The Michigan Office of Highway Safety Planning has joined the National Sleep Foundation as a cooperative co-sponsor to assist in promoting events and activities throughout Michigan that are geared toward building awareness of the importance of successful sleep.

National Sleep Awareness Week is a way to inform people about sleeping successfully in order to improve the quality of

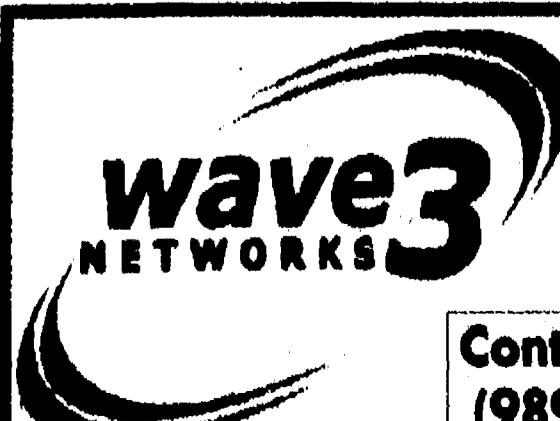
their lives and their driving.

Persons who receive fewer than six hours of sleep per night, are awake for 20 hours or longer, or work more than one job and/or night shifts are prime candidates for unsuccessful sleep patterns. This lack of sleep often results in drowsy drivers.

The only cure for drowsy driving is to get a sufficient amount of sleep prior to driving. The general rule is one hour of sleep for every two hours awake.

Other preventive measures are to avoid driving during late night hours, share the driving when taking long trips, stop and take a nap in a safe place and avoid sedating medications prior to driving.

For more information on National Sleep Awareness Week or to find a Community Sleep Awareness Partner, visit the National Sleep Foundation's web site at www.sleepfoundation.org.



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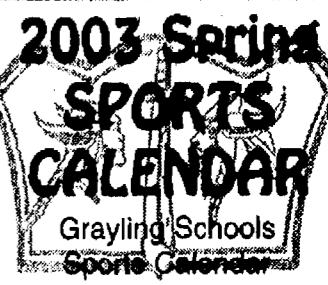
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SPORTS & RECREATION



Pages 6-7B

Crawford County Avalanche

Thursday, April 3, 2003

Spring sports games, meets start next week

► Track, boys tennis, and girls soccer to kick off 2003 spring season

by Caleb Casey

Staff Writer

The spring high school sports season – which includes baseball, softball, track and field, girls soccer, girls golf, and boys tennis – is just around the corner. For Grayling High School, the season gets underway next week with a track meet at Roscommon, a tennis meet in Grayling, and a girls soccer match at Tawas.

With regard to game schedules, spring sports fans should be aware that the Crawford AuSable School District 2002-2003 School Calendar lists many incorrect dates for spring sports games and meets.

"Usually the calendar is pretty accurate except for the spring sports," said CASD Athletic Director Brian Banda. "That will always be the case."

The reason, Banda said, is because the calendar has to go to print before the school year starts and there are often scheduling changes in between that time and the spring sports season. At the beginning of this school year, it was thought GHS would begin play in its new athletic league – the Lake Michigan Conference – in the spring of 2003, but that didn't happen and game schedules had to be adjusted accordingly.

(For the most recent GHS spring sports game/meet schedules, check out our Spring Sports Calendar on Pages 6-7B.)

Two of Grayling's spring sports – baseball and softball – will be getting an early introduction to the LMC this spring. (GHS starts its official inaugural season in the Lake Michigan Conference in the fall of 2003.)

The baseball and softball teams will be playing a full conference schedule in both their current league – the North East Michigan Conference – and their new league – the LMC.

"This will give us an idea what to expect next year," Banda said.

Grayling's varsity baseball and softball teams will not be eligible for all-league awards or a league title in the LMC this year, Banda said. GHS is still officially a member of the NEMC.

Three of the four baseball and softball teams have new coaches this year. Donna Boughner, varsity softball coach, is the only returner. The new varsity baseball coach is Bob Gorski, and the JV coaches are Travis Huber (baseball) and Loren Bass (softball). "Bob is doing a nice job of promoting his program and generating enthusiasm," Banda said. "Loren comes with a lot of experience coaching."

Opening day for the varsity baseball and softball teams is Monday, April 14. On April 14, the varsity squads will both host Roscommon beginning at 4 p.m.

Continued on Page 2B

See "SPRING SPORTS..."

Girls soccer team has a new coach



Photo by Caleb Casey

Coach John Haven demonstrates a dribbling drill at an early GHS girls soccer team practice inside the elementary school gym. For more on the team and its new coach, see Page 3B.

Season opens with April 9 meet at Roscommon

New coaches take over GHS track program

Boys squad to be led by Darnell Wilson, a former all-stater in track

by Caleb Casey

Staff Writer

Darnell Wilson, a former all-state track athlete at Flint Beecher High School, is the new coach of the Grayling High School boys track and

field team. Wilson currently teaches math in the special education program at GHS.

Coach Wilson is in his first year of living and working in Grayling. He moved here from Flint to be with his fiancee,

who lives in Grayling.

At Flint Beecher, Wilson was an all-state track athlete, and was ranked in the top 15 runners in the nation in the 110-meter hurdles event. He also played college football – at Central Michigan University – from 1995-2000.

He brings track experience – and enthusiasm – to the GHS coaching job.

"I had an opportunity to run against some of the best in the country," Coach Wilson said. "I

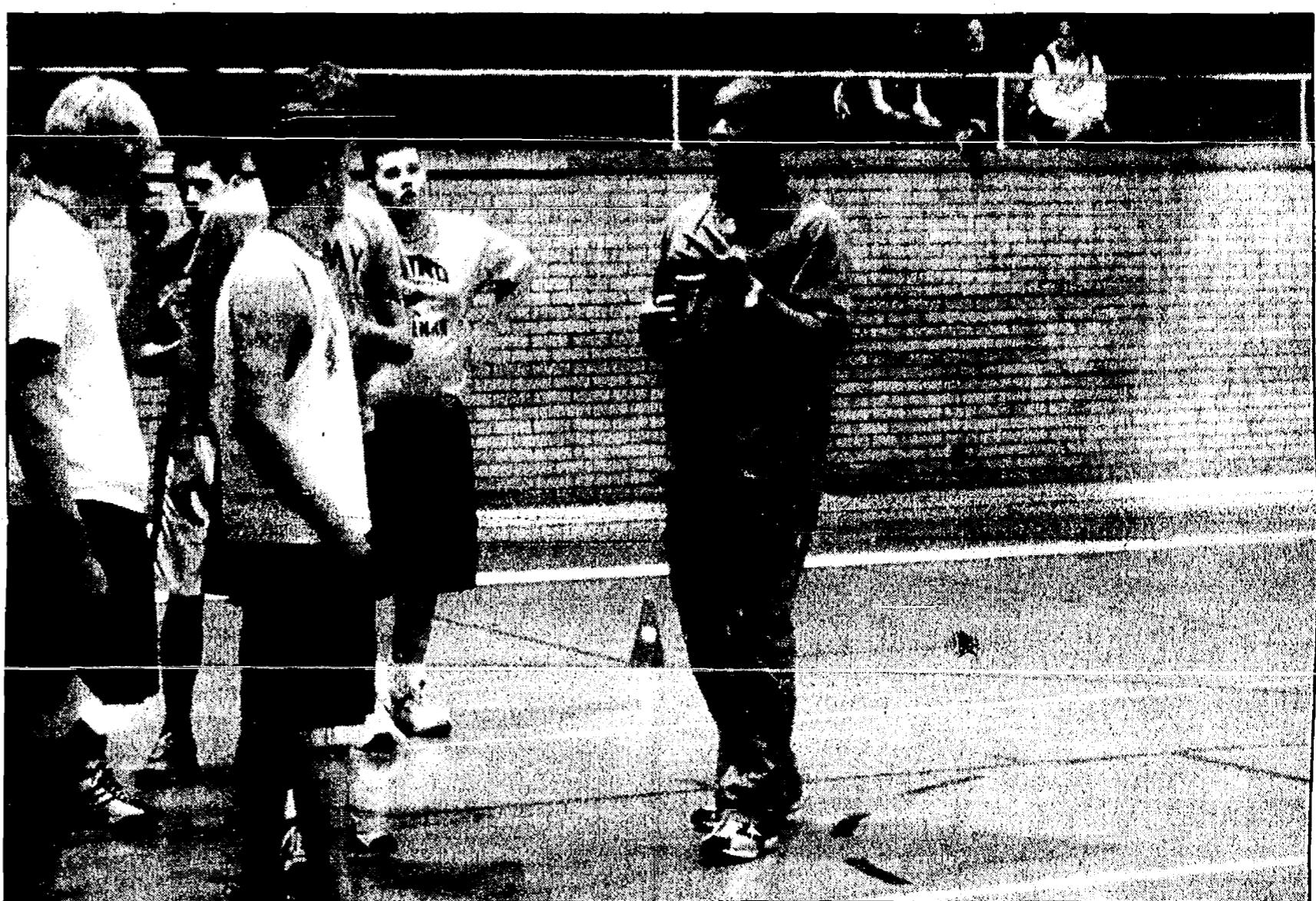
felt I could bring some of my track tradition up here. I bring something new to the table."

"People here aren't used to hearing about track, they hear about basketball, football maybe," Wilson said. "I hope we can open doors up and put track back on the map."

Wilson's team is solid in the numbers department. "We've got 35 strong," Wilson said at a recent practice.

Continued on Page 4B

See "BOYS TRACK..."



Photos by Caleb Casey

Coach Darnell Wilson explains a drill to members of the boys track team at a recent practice at Grayling Middle School.

GHS teacher Heidi West to coach girls squad

by Caleb Casey

Staff Writer

One of her favorite pastimes is running. Heidi West, an English teacher at Grayling High School, is the new coach of the GHS girls track and field team, which is currently practicing and preparing for the 2003 spring season.

Coach West said she ran track in high school and still enjoys running. She has competed in a few smaller races but said she mostly just runs "for myself."

"I got the bug," she said.

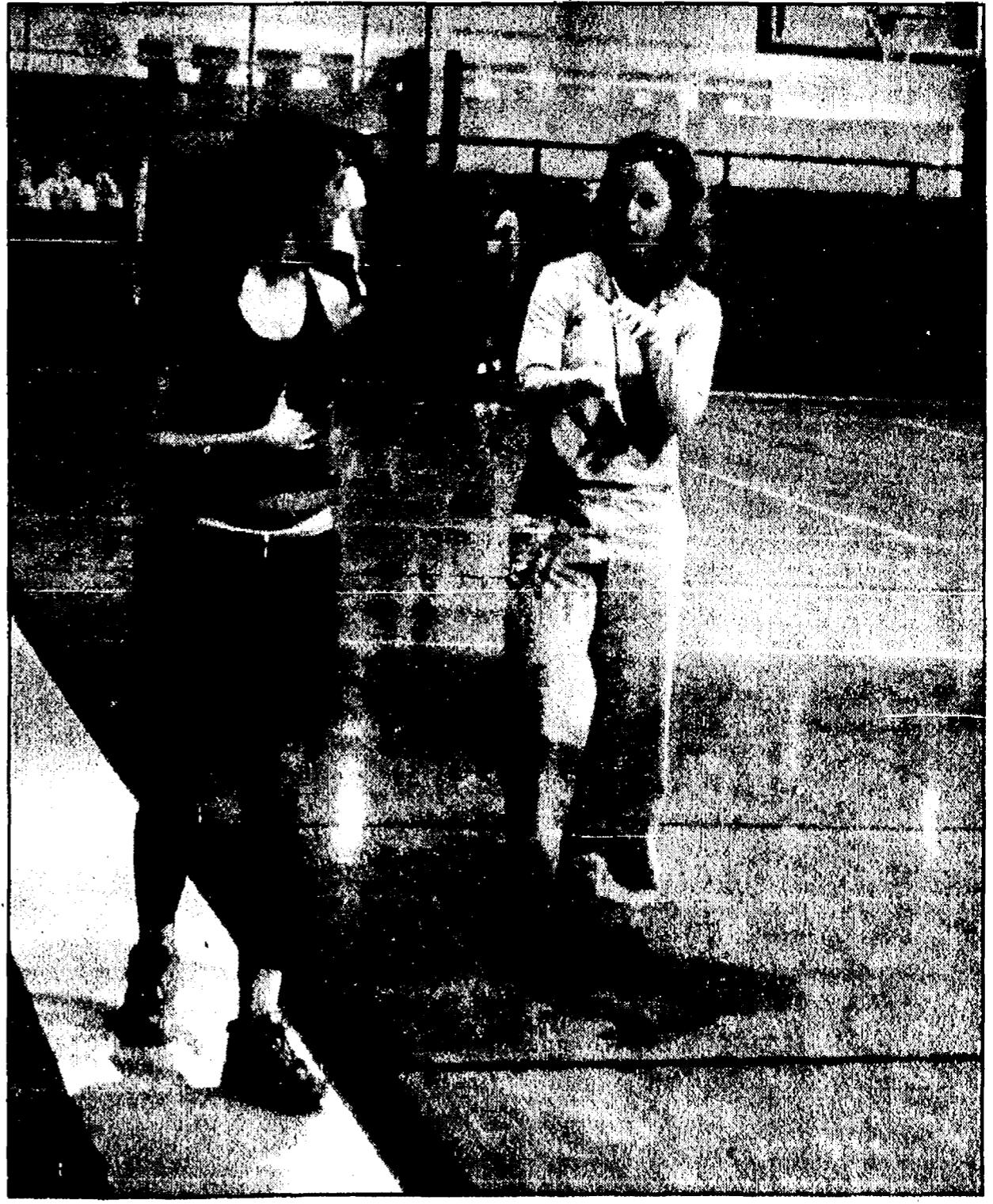
West, a second-year teacher in her first year at GHS, lives in Traverse City. She is originally from Indiana, and moved to northern Michigan from Florida last summer. "I wanted to move closer to home (Indiana), I was ready to get back to the mid-west," she said. "Michigan appealed to me."

West said she got into coaching the track team this year as a way to "do things with the kids outside of class. It's a nice diversion."

West's team has about a dozen athletes (three seniors, three juniors, the rest underclassmen) – a lower number than desirable. "It's a small team but they have a lot of heart, so we should be okay," West said. "It's a young

Continued on Page 2B

See "GIRLS TRACK..."



Coach Heidi West gives a few pointers to Tracy Parkinson during practice.

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Girls track: new coach takes over

Continued from Page 1B

team, so hopefully they'll have some success this year. Hopefully we'll have some good leadership from our

seniors."

The girls track program "is kind of in a rebuilding phase. It's had a different coach every year, so there hasn't been any

continuity. Because of that, there's not a lot of faith in the program — hopefully we can change that," Coach West said.

The Grayling High School

track team is scheduled to open its 2003 competition schedule with a meet at Roscommon on Wednesday, April 9, at 4 p.m.



Ashley Hawley (front) and Jessica Green run a cool-down lap at the end of a recent practice.

Photos by Caleb Casey
Coach Heidi West talks with a few of her track athletes after practice (indoors at the Grayling Middle School).

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Girls soccer team has a new coach

► Coach John Haven hopes to help build 'a complete program'

by Caleb Casey
Staff Writer

John Haven, Grayling High School's new girls soccer coach, hopes to build a solid team this year and strengthen the overall program.

"I see a lot of good things and a lot of room for improvement," Haven said. "We just want to work on improving every game. We will set our goals so we can be challenged, but still able to meet them and keep moving up."

Haven has soccer coaching experience at several different levels, and he has been involved with soccer at various capacities for over 10 years. His son James, a sophomore, plays for the GHS varsity boys soccer team, and he has two elementary level daughters.

Haven said that with his girls coming up through the system, he talked over the prospect of coaching the GHS team with several people and decided to give it a try. "I thought maybe I can make a difference," he said.

The team has been practicing for more than three weeks. Haven had about 20 players at early practices. "We've had pretty good turn-out," he said. "I'm happy with it."

The squad will have several returning players from last year's team, including six seniors, and a mix of juniors, sophomores, and freshmen. "I've got talent at all grades," Haven said. "It looks good up and down the line."

Haven said he hopes to help build "a complete program," in part through getting the varsity program (players and coaches) involved with the local youth soccer teams by conducting clinics.

Haven said he is approaching the job as a potential long-term assignment, but added that "even if the coach (in the future) isn't me, I want to help build a program. I've had a lot of support and I'll do what I can to make some improvements."

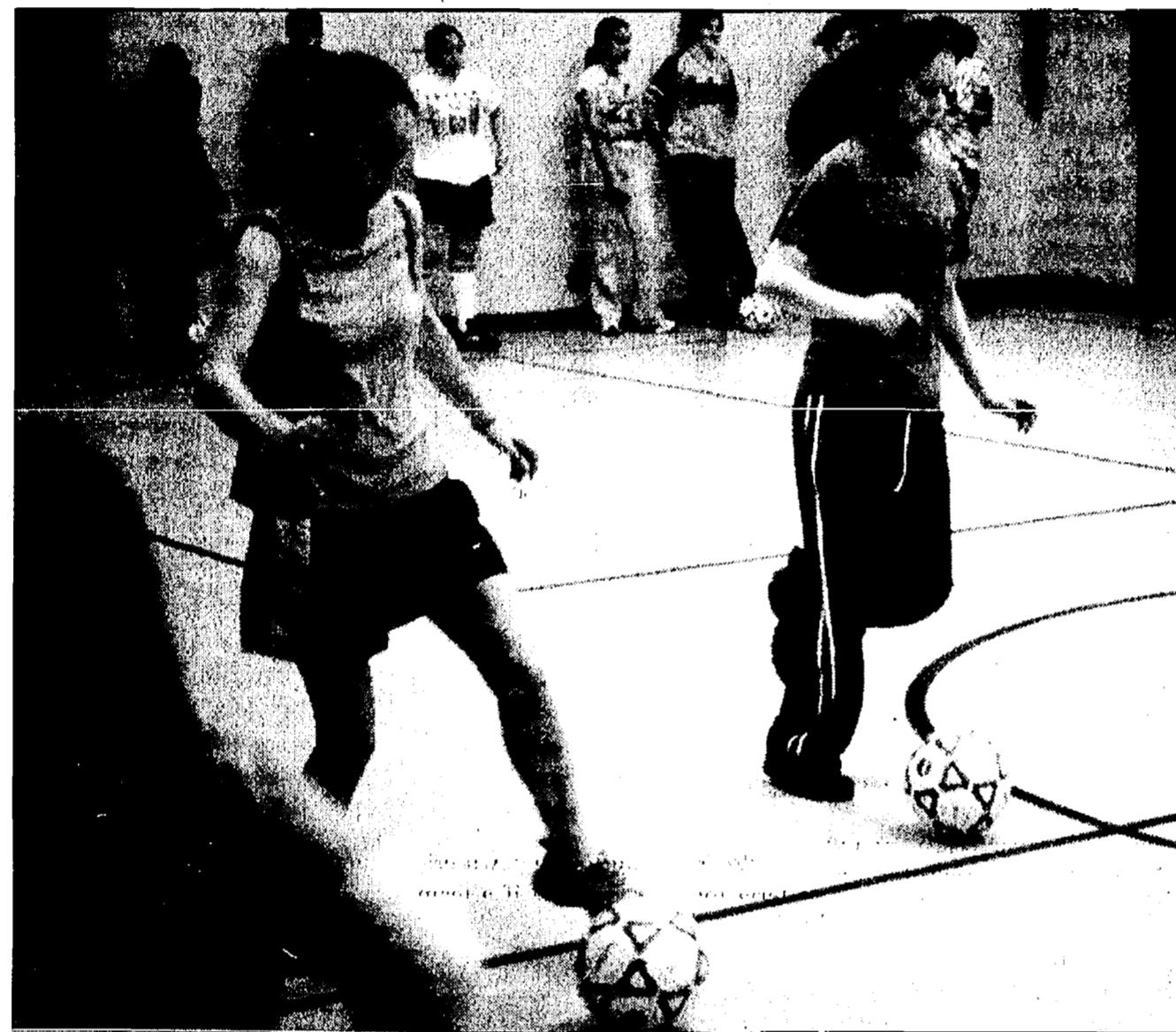
"I'm really enjoying doing this," Haven said. "I'm looking forward to the season."

The Vikings open their season



Photos by Caleb Casey

Coach John Haven talks with his players at a recent practice inside the Grayling Elementary School gymnasium.



Jill Seager (left) and Monica Safin work on their dribbling during a drill at practice.

with a game at Tawas on Wednesday, April 9 at 5 p.m. On Friday, April 11, the team will play at Roscommon at 5 p.m.

The squad's first home game is scheduled for Wednesday, April 16, at 5 p.m. The Vikings will play the Spartans of Pinconning.

BOWLING LEAGUE

American Men's League

GADCO 16 - 05

Warren Forest Products 14 - 07

Fenton's Auto Service 14 - 07

Helsel Forest Products 12 - 09

Forrest Brothers 10 - 11

Scheer Motors 09 - 12

McLeans ACE 07 - 14

Moore's Automotive 02 - 19

High Series: L. Davis, 729; J. Robideau, 699; D. Yanniello, 618.

High Game: J. Robideau, 259;

L. Davis, 259; D. Yanniello, 234;

J. Helsel, 234.

Pioneer League

South Side River Rats 40 - 16

Avalanche 37 - 19

Rochette's 34.5 - 21.5

Hawk Ridge Golf 27.5 - 28.5

Custom Interior 26.5 - 29.5

The Ice House 22.5 - 33.5

Chemical Bank 21 - 35

McDonald's of Grayling 15 - 41

High Series: D. Hollis, 553; G. VanDeCastelee, 531; C. Jones, 519; J. Coors, 512.

High Game: D. Hollis, 204; J. Coors, 203; L. Golnick, 201; S. Johnson, 199.

Recreation

Gale Enterprises 35 - 21

Woody Girls' 32 - 24

Mickey Perez CPA 31 - 25

Peterson's Saw Service 30 - 26

Chicken Little Joint Pro 29 - 27

Hawk Ridge Golf 25 - 31

Glens' Market 23 - 33

Coldwell Banker 19 - 37

High Series: S. Harney, 566; M. Starks, 537; H. Larm, 509; S. Johnson, 505.

High Game: S. Harney, 209; M. Starks, 208; K. Moshier, 192; S. Johnson, 188.

Senior Bowling

Grayling Pharmacy 74.5 - 33.5

Cornell Insurance 56.5 - 51.5

Spike's Keg O'Nails 56 - 52

Gray Rock 53 - 55

Flowers By Josie 50.5 - 57.5

Sylvester's Sports 49.5 - 58.5

Hall's Snow Removal 47 - 61

Buccilli's Pizza 44 - 64

High Series Men: D. Germain, 559; J. Rasmussen, 542; B. Hollis, 535.

High Game Men: P. Faustman, 205; B. Hollis, 197; O. Brantley, 197; K. Louchart, 197.

High Series Women: G. VanDeCastelee, 476; D. Brantley, 466; R. Joyce, 452.

High Game Women: G. VanDeCastelee, 180; M. Ryss, 172; A. Payne, 171.

Sunday Nite Mixed Doubles

Wakeley's Auto Parts 71 - 34

D.X.R. Computers 71 - 34

Spark's 66 - 39

Little Tyke Day Care 48 - 57

Hart Pontiac-GMC 48 - 57

North Pure Ice 47 - 58

Calkin's Excavating 35 - 70

Shady Acres 34 - 71

High Series Men: D. Yanniello, 597; S. Miller, 578; J. Meharg, 534.

High Game Men: D. Yanniello, 224; S. Miller, 221; J. Meharg, 210.

High Series Women: C. Yanniello, 611; S. Romain, 532; T. Day, 510.

High Game Women: C. Yanniello, 245; T. Day, 185; V. Meharg, 182.

National First

Ausable Construction 63 - 28

Denholm Chiropractic 54 - 37

Faustman's Insurance 44 - 47

Corky's Karaoke 44 - 47

Scott Pittman Builders 44 - 47

Legion Lanes 40 - 51

Northern White Tail 39 - 52

Hart Pontiac-GMC 36 - 55

High Series: D. Canfield, 660; J. Helsel, 648; S. Miller, 616.

High Game: D. Canfield, 265; D. Deming, 255; J. Helsel, 242.

Northwood

Lucky & Laura's 33.5 - 22.5

North MI Financial 33 - 23

Hometown Furniture 32.5 - 23.5

Grayling Chiropractic 29 - 27

Corky's Karaoke 28 - 28

Hart Pontiac-GMC 28 - 28

Beckett Contracting 22.5 - 33.5

Calkin's Excavating 17.5 - 38.5

High Series: T. Rock, 516; T. Day, 512; D. Roman, 494.

High Game: T. Rock, 194; S. Romain, 192; J. Denno, 182.

Recreation

Gale Enterprises 35 - 21

Woody Girls' 32 - 24

Mickey Perez CPA 31 - 25

Peterson's Saw Service 30 - 26

Chicken Little Joint Pro 29 - 27

Hawk Ridge Golf 25 - 31

Glens' Market 23 - 33

POOL LEAGUE

Women's Standings

Swamp II 205

Sawmill II 190

Plaza 179

American Legion 175

Gray Rock 171

Frederic Inn 151

Spike's 137

Sawmill I 136

6 Ball Runs: Annette (Swamp), Rose (Swamp).

5 Ball Runs: Dee (Gray Rock),

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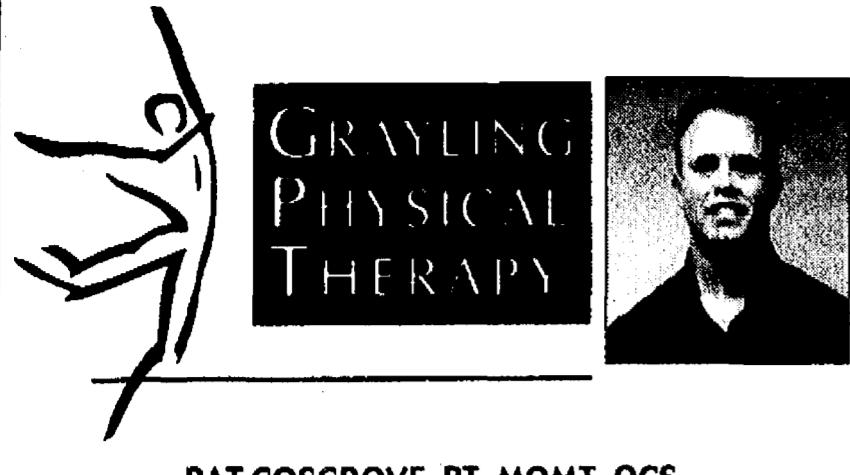
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Boys track: new coach takes over

Continued from Page 1B

"Look for these guys (to do well this year): Eric Hunter, Chad Helsel, and Tyler Cragg (in sprint events), Tim Umlor in discus, and Pawel Wojcik in hurdles," Wilson said. "We've got some depth in some areas."

"I just want to see people succeed and excel. My goal is to get as many state finalists this year as we can. We have guys who can make it if they work hard," Coach Wilson said. "I want to see guys get scholarships (for track) so they can go to college."

"The kids are having fun — that's the number one thing," Wilson said. "I want them to have fun while winning in the process."

Wilson said that as a coach, he thinks of himself as a role model, and believes he can be "the big brother to hang with" that some of his athletes might not have.

"I love the kids, I treat them as my family," Coach Wilson said. "In order to win track meets, you have to be as one, as brothers."

Wilson noted that he has one assistant coach — Matt Warren — who is "doing a good job."

Overall, Wilson said he is excited about the chance to coach and he's making the most of it.

"It's a pleasure," Wilson said. "It's a great opportunity for me. I'm blessed to have the opportunity to come up here and do this, bring a little diversity to the area. I'm really enjoying myself up here. It's peaceful."



Photo by Caleb Casey

Boys track team athletes run a lap at a recent practice in the GMS gym.

nity to come up here and do this, bring a little diversity to the area. I'm really enjoying myself up here. It's peaceful."

The Grayling High School

track and field team is scheduled to open its 2003 competition schedule with a meet at Roscommon on Wednesday, April 9, at 4 p.m.

Track team looks for donation of a golf cart

The GHS track and field team is asking area golf courses (and residents) if they have a spare golf cart and might be willing to loan or donate it to the track program to help the coaches with transportation at practices.

The track and field team's athletes practice their different events at different areas of the stadium, some of which are quite a ways apart, and the program could use a golf cart to help the coaches quickly get from station to station, increasing the time they can spend with the athletes, Coach Darnell Wilson said.

Anyone interested in donating or loaning a golf cart to the GHS track team is urged to contact Wilson at 344-3508 (work) or 344-2355 (home).

Athletic department considers eligibility policy changes

► 'Strict' policy may be eased to allow for chance to bring grades up

by Caleb Casey
Staff Writer

Grayling High School has one of the strictest eligibility policies for athletes in the state, according to CASD Athletic Director Brian Banda. Banda is working

with the school board to bring about a change to the school's eligibility policy to make it a little easier for athletes to get their eligibility back if they lose it due to failing grades.

"As the policy stands, if an athlete fails one class, they are ineligible for nine weeks," Banda said. "Nine weeks is a long time. When I asked other (athletic directors) at the state conference, no one had a policy this strict."

The Michigan High School

Athletic Association's eligibility policy says an athlete has to be passing five classes, Banda said, so players can be failing two classes and still be eligible, depending on the school's individual eligibility policy.

Banda said he will present specific options for changing the GHS eligibility policy to the school board in April. He is looking into adding a provision that would allow athletes who fail a class to be monitored from week

to week, giving them a chance to regain their eligibility if they can get their grades up.

"Right now, those who fail a class are not provided an opportunity to make that up" with regard to eligibility, Banda said. "That can be viewed as somewhat punitive."

Banda hopes that by allowing athletes the opportunity to regain their eligibility by improving their grades, the school will keep more students involved in sports.

1st Rnd.

2nd Rnd.

Regionals

Semifinals

Regionals

2nd Rnd.

1st Rnd.

March 20 or 21

March 22 or 23

1. Kentucky (29-3)
JC Penney's
16. JUPITER (20-13)
Grayling Nursing Centre

1. Kentucky
JC Penney's

8. Oregon (23-9)
Rochette's

9. Utah (24-7)
Fox Run Country Club

5. Wisconsin (22-7)
Diane's Car Wash

12. Weber State (26-5)
Medicine Shoppe

4. Dayton (24-5)
Ausable Construction

13. Tulsa (22-9)
Showtyme Collision

6. Missouri (21-10)
Northern Cafe

11. Southern Illinois (24-6)
Scott McNamara Ford-Roscommon

3. Marquette (23-5)
Ausable Valley Homes

14. Holy Cross (26-4)
Scheer Motors

7. Indiana (20-12)
Country Skillet

10. Alabama (17-11)
Heads Up North

2. Pittsburgh (26-4)
Rialto

15. Wagner (21-10)
Darwin's Jewelry Repair

1. Arizona (25-3)
AVCI.NET

16. Vermont (21-11)
Arby's

8. Cincinnati (17-11)
Century 21

9. Gonzaga (23-8)
Scott McNamara Ford-Grayling

5. Notre Dame (22-10)
Kellogg's Bridge One Stop

12. Wis.-Milwaukee (24-7)
Jiffy Motor Mall

4. Illinois (24-6)
7-Eleven

13. Western Kentucky (24-8)
One Dam Rd. Party Store

6. Creighton (29-4)
Moore's Automotive

11. Central Michigan (24-6)
Scott McNamara Ford-Roscommon

3. Duke (24-6)
Grayling Pharmacy

14. Colorado State (19-13)
Darlene's Milltown Cremer

7. Memphis (23-6)
Davis Jewelers

10. Arizona State (19-11)
Hart Pontiac GMC Buick

2. Kansas (25-7)
DuBois Lumber & Rental Center

15. Utah State (24-8)
Heads Up North

8. Utah
Fox Run Country Club

1. Kentucky
JC Penney's

5. Wisconsin
Diane's Car Wash

13. Tulsa
Showtyme Collision

6. Missouri
Northern Cafe

3. Marquette
Ausable Valley Homes

3. Marquette
Ausable Valley Homes

2. Pittsburgh
Rialto

1. Arizona
AVCI.NET

9. Gonzaga
Scott McNamara Ford-Grayling

5. Notre Dame
Kellogg's Bridge One Stop

4. Illinois
7-Eleven

Anaheim
March 27 & March 29

11. Central Michigan
Scott McNamara Ford-Roscommon

3. Duke
Grayling Pharmacy

10. Arizona State
Hart Pontiac GMC Buick

2. Kansas
DuBois Lumber & Rental Center

MIDWEST

WEST

DuBois Lumber & Rental Center

NCAA Final Four
New Orleans
Championship April 7th

3. Marquette
Ausable Valley Homes

4. Texas
Comfort Center

5. Connecticut
Bell Hearing

6. Maryland
Charlene Scheer-ReMax of Grayling

7. Michigan State
Sylvester's Sports

UNC-Asheville (14-16)
Play-in game Dayton

SOUTH

1. Texas
Comfort Center

2. Louisiana
Sports Sylvester's

3. Xavier
Flick & Sons

4. Louisville
Sports Management

UNC-Asheville

5. Connecticut
Bell Hearing

6. Maryland
Charlene Scheer-ReMax of Grayling

7. Michigan State
Sylvester's Sports

8. Florida
Riverland

9. Sam Houston State (23-6)
Coldwell Banker-Cornell

10. Colorado (20-11)
Ferrellgas

11. South Carolina St (20-10)
Don Nester Chevrolet

12. Butler
Sunburst Marine

13. Butler
Sunburst Marine

14. Louisville
Sports Management

15. Auburn
Grayling Big Boy

16. Oklahoma
Larry & Joan's Place

17. Oklahoma
Larry & Joan's Place

18. Oklahoma
Larry & Joan's Place

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Larry & Joan's Place

41. Oklahoma
Larry & Joan's Place

LEGAL ACTION

Public Auction Sale

Under the authority in Internal Revenue Code section 6331, the property described below has been seized for non-payment of internal revenue taxes due from RELIABLE SUPPLY & EQUIPMENT CO. The property will be sold at public auction as provided by Internal Revenue Code section 6335 and related regulations. 04/22/2003, 11:00 AM, 200 W. MICHIGAN AVE., GRAYLING, MI 49738 (BASEMENT LEVEL).

Only the right, title and interest of RELIABLE SUPPLY & EQUIPMENT CO. in and to the property will be offered for sale. If requested, the Internal Revenue Service will furnish information about possible encumbrances, which may be useful in determining the value of the interest being sold.

Real Property located in the State of Michigan, City of Grayling, County of Crawford, and further described as:

The Southwesterly 40.0 feet of Lots 5 and 6, all of Lot 7, and the Northerly 50 feet of Lot 8, Block 8, of the Original Plat of the Village (now City) of Grayling, according to the plat thereof, as recorded in Liber 1 of Plats, Page 02 Crawford County Records.

Approximately 5,000 square feet block wall building, commercial zoning, lot size 110' X 180'.

AKA: 102 Ottawa Street, Grayling, MI
MINIMUM BID: \$63,032.07.

Property may be inspected at: DRIVE BY ONLY, 102 Ottawa Street, Grayling, Michigan.

Full payment required on acceptance of highest bid.

All payments must be made by cash, certified check, cashier's or treasurer's check or by a United States postal, bank, express, or telegraph money order. Make check or money order payable to the Internal Revenue Service. FOR MORE INFO VISIT OUR WEBSITE: www.irs.ustreas.gov/auctions/irs OR CALL: IRS, PALS

Betty Myatt
22600 Hall Rd., Ste. 102
Clinton Township, MI 48036
586-493-4555

-3-10-17

Paul T. Joseph, P33709
Attorney

4121 Okemos Road, Suite 10
Okemos, MI 48864
517-381-2663
Geraldine F. Dougherty
3320 Middlesex Drive
Springhill, FL 34607
727-862-9316

Dated: March 27, 2003
Orlans Associates PC
Attorney for Fifth Third Mortgage-MI
LLC, As Mortgagee
P.O. Box 5041
Troy, MI 48007-5041
(248) 457-1000
File No. 200.0789

27-03-10-17-24

Attorneys and Counselors
30400 Telegraph Road, Suite 200
Bingham Farms, MI 48025
File # 200313211
Team H

20-27-03-10

STATE OF MICHIGAN

JUDICIAL DISTRICT

CRAWFORD JUDICIAL

CIRCUIT

ORDER FOR SERVICE BY

PUBLICATION/POSTING

AND NOTICE OF ACTION

200 WEST MICHIGAN AVENUE

GRAYLING, MICHIGAN 49738

Case No. 03-6017 CH

J.C. Monte, L.C.

v

Everett C. Smiley and

Doris A. Smiley, husband and wife

TO: Everett C. Smiley and Doris A.

Smiley

IT IS ORDERED:

1. You are being sued by plaintiff in

this court to quiet title to Lot 60, Northern Heights, Warblers Hideaway, Crawford County, MI. You must file your answer or take other action permitted by law in this court at the court address above on or before May 9, 2003. If you fail to do so, a default judgment may be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint filed in this case.

Dated: March 20, 2003
Judge Alton T. Davis (P-24472)

David R. Sabin P19822
Attorney for Plaintiff

115 Michigan Avenue
Grayling, MI 49738
989-348-5588

-27-03-10

Notice of Mortgage Foreclosure Sale

This firm is a debt collector attempting to collect a debt. Any information we obtain will be used for that purpose. Please contact our office at the number below if you are in active military duty.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS:
The decedent, Betty Delores Lifford, who lived at 1039 Trails End Road, Grayling, Michigan, 49738 died November 4, 2002.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Patricia Papendick, named personal representative or proposed personal representative, or to both the probate court at 200 W. Michigan Ave, Grayling, MI 49738 and the named/proposed personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

Date: March 24, 2003
Patricia Papendick
115 Trails End Road
Grayling, MI 49738
989-348-7036

-3

STATE OF MICHIGAN COUNTY OF CRAWFORD NOTICE TO CREDITORS Decedent's Estate

Estate of John E. Godbey, deceased,
Date of birth: 08/20/27

NOTICE TO CREDITORS:

The decedent, John E. Godbey, deceased, who lived at 3547 Juniper Way, Grayling, Michigan, 49738, and who used to reside and conduct business in Oakland County, Michigan, died January 8, 2003.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Geraldine F. Dougherty, named Trustee under the Stanley R. Clarke Revocable Living Trust.

MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE OF LAND AND FACILITIES

NOTICE OF SALE OF SURPLUS LANDS

LAND TRANSACTION CASE NO. 20000281

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to the provisions of Section 2133, Part 21, Subpart 10 of Act 451, P.A. 1994, that the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) proposes to sell the following State-owned land or rights in land by auction:

Crawford County, Lovells Township, Section 21, T28N, R1W; the SW 1/4 of the NW 1/4. (40 acres)

The proposed sale of this land is being published for public comment. Any comments regarding the proposed sale of this land should be forwarded to Mr. Robert L. Couveur, Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Office of Land and Facilities, P.O. Box 30448, Lansing, MI 48909-7948, or via e-mail at couver@michigan.gov. Phone 517-335-3259. The deadline for comments is April 21, 2003.

PLEASE NOTE: This notice is not a solicitation for bids. Further information concerning this case is available by contacting Ms. Carol Larsen, Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Office of Land and Facilities, P.O. Box 30448, Lansing, MI 48909-7948, or via e-mail at larsencb@michigan.gov. Phone 517-335-3324.

Notice of Foreclosure Sale

Default having been made in the terms and conditions of a certain mortgage made by Jocelyn Montgomery of 205 Alexia Lane, Grayling, Michigan 49738 to First National Bank of Gaylord, of 501 W. Main Street, Gaylord, Michigan 49735, dated July 3, 2001 and recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds, for the County of Crawford, and State of Michigan, on August 2, 2001, in Liber 0546 Pages 306 through 313 Crawford County Records, and on which there is claimed to be due, at the date of this notice, for principal, interest and late fees, the sum of \$24,414.98.

As no suit or other legal proceedings have been filed to recover the debt secured by the Mortgage; Now, therefore, by virtue of the power of sale contained in the mortgage, and pursuant to the statutes of the State of Michigan, NOTICE is hereby given that on Wednesday, the 23rd day of April 2003 at 10 o'clock a.m. the mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale at public auction to the highest bidder, at the main entrance to the County Building in the City of Grayling, Crawford County, Michigan, of that premises described in the mortgage, or so much thereof as may be necessary to pay the amount due, on the mortgage, with interest thereon at the contract rate and all legal costs, charges and expenses, including the attorney fees allowed by law, and also any sums which may be paid by the mortgagor to protect its interest in the premises.

The premises are described as follows: Land situated in the Township of Grayling, County of Crawford, State of Michigan, described as:

Lot 101, Grayling Mobile Estates #3, Township of Grayling, Crawford County, Michigan, according to the recorded plat thereof, as recorded in Liber 3 of Plats, Page 23, Crawford County Records.

The redemption period shall be six (6) months from the date of such sale, unless the property is determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be thirty (30) days from the date of the sale.

Dated: March 11, 2003
Bodman, Longley & Dahlberg LLP

Amy J. Duran (P54777)
Debt Collector for First National
Bank of Gaylord
229 Court Street
P.O. Box 405
Cheboygan, MI 49721
(231) 627-4351

-20-27-03-10-17

Notice of Mortgage Foreclosure Sale

This firm is a debt collector attempting to collect a debt. Any information we obtain will be used for that purpose. Please contact our office at the number below if you are in active military duty.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS:
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Patricia Papendick
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NOTICE OF SALE OF SURPLUS LANDS

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(339)

27-03-10-17-24

STATE OF MICHIGAN CIRCUIT COURT COUNTY OF CRAWFORD

Case No. 00-5181-CK
Honorable Dennis F. Murphy
D. Jerome Slack, As Trustee
of the D. Jerome Slack Trust
U/A/D June 26, 1981, Plaintiff

Paul W. Schroeder, Colleen
Schroeder, jointly and severally,
and Barnstormers, Inc., a Michigan
corporation; d/b/a Red Barn, d/b/a
Margretheville, Defendants,

Thomas R. Alward (P31724)
Brandt, Fisher, Alward & Roy, P.C.
Attorney for Plaintiff
1241 E. Eighth Street
P.O. Box 5817
Traverse City, MI 49696-5817
231-941-9660

27-03-10-17-24

Notice of Foreclosure Sale

1. On August 16, 2002, the Circuit Court for the County of Crawford, State of Michigan, entered a Judgment of Foreclosure in this matter.

2. As of the date of this notice, this Judgment remains unsatisfied. Therefore, pursuant to the terms of the Judgment of Foreclosure on Wednesday, May 7, 2003 at 10:00 a.m., at a public auction to be held in the Courthouse in the City of Grayling, I shall offer for sale to the highest bidder all of the right, title, and interest of the Defendants, Paul W. Schroeder and Colleen Schroeder, in and to the real property described as follows:

PARCEL 2: Commencing at the South 1/4 corner of Section 12, T26N, R4W; thence S 89° 37' W along the South line of Section 12, 737.6 feet to the Southerly right-of-way of M-72; thence N73° 15' W along the Southerly right-of-way of M-72, 451.8 feet to the intersection of the Northerly right-of-way of M-93 for Point of Beginning; thence South 58° 30' W along the Northerly right-of-way of M-93, 431.3 feet; thence North 0° 21' W, 336.5 feet to the Southerly right-of-way of M-72; thence South 73° 15' E along the Southerly right-of-way of M-72, 386.2 feet to the point of beginning. Being part of South 1/2 of the Southwest 1/4 of Section 12, Town 26 North, Range 4 West, and North 1/2 of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 13, Town 26 North, Range 4 West, Grayling Township, Crawford County, Michigan.

3. The sale of the Property shall be as a single parcel free and clear of all easements, liens, encumbrances and claims arising since August 9, 1999, the date that the Mortgage was recorded at the Crawford County Register of Deeds. The sale is subject to liens and other restrictions recorded before August 9, 1999 none of which are foreclosed by the Judgment of Foreclosure.

4. Paul W. Schroeder and Colleen Schroeder, shall be forever barred and foreclosed of and from all equity of redemption, and claim of, in, and to the Mortgaged Property, if not redeemed within six months from the date of the sale.

Dated: March 10, 2003
Thomas R. Alward, Esq. (P31724)
Brandt, Fisher, Alward & Roy, P.C.
Attorneys for Plaintiff

1241 E. Eighth Street
P.O. Box 5817
Traverse City, MI 49696-5817

-20-27-03-10-17-24

Notice of Mortgage Foreclosure Sale

</

Spring CALENDAR

S. Sports Calendar



ing Vikings City Soccer

Opponent	H/A	Event Time	Bus Time
Tawas	A	5:00	2:25
Roscommon	A	5:00	3:30
Oscoda	A	5:00	2:15
Pinconning	H	5:00	
West Branch Ogemaw Heights	H	5:00	
Standish-Sterling	A	5:00	2:30
Bay City John Glenn	A	5:00	
Boyne City	A	5:00	3:00
Tawas	H	5:00	
Oscoda	H	5:00	
Pinconning	A	5:00	2:30
West Branch Ogemaw Heights	A	5:00	2:45
Boyne City	H	5:00	
Standish-Sterling	H	5:00	
Bay City John Glenn	A	5:00	2:15

Grayling Vikings Junior Varsity Softball

Day	Date	Opponent	H/A	Event Time	Bus Time
Monday	April 14, 2003	Roscommon	A	4:00	3:00
Wednesday	April 16, 2003	Houghton Lake	H	4:00	
Monday	April 21, 2003	Charlevoix	A	4:30	2:30
Tuesday	April 22, 2003	Tawas	A	4:00	2:00
Thursday	April 24, 2003	Elk Rapids	H	4:30	
Monday	April 28, 2003	Kalkaska	A	4:30	3:15
Tuesday	April 29, 2003	Oscoda	H	4:00	
Thursday	May 1, 2003	Boyne City	H	4:30	
Tuesday	May 6, 2003	East Jordan	A	4:30	2:30
Thursday	May 8, 2003	Harbor Springs	H	4:30	
Monday	May 12, 2003	Traverse City St. Francis	A	4:30	2:30
Thursday	May 15, 2003	Pinconning	H	4:00	
Monday	May 19, 2003	League Make-up			
Tuesday	May 20, 2003	West Branch Ogemaw Heights	A	4:00	2:10
Thursday	May 22, 2003	Bay City John Glenn	A	4:00	1:30

Grayling Vikings Girls Golf

Day	Date	Opponent	H/A	Event Time	Bus Time
Wednesday	April 16, 2003	Hillman	A	4:00	2:00
Tuesday	April 22, 2003	Alpena	A	4:00	1:30
Monday	April 28, 2003	Roscommon	H	4:00	
Tuesday	April 29, 2003	Petoskey/Newberry	A	4:00	2:00
Thursday	May 1, 2003	Alpena/Roscommon	H	4:00	
Monday	May 5, 2003	Hillman Invitational	A	9:00	7:00
Wednesday	May 7, 2003	Hillman/Roscommon	A	4:00	TBA
Thursday	May 8, 2003	Petoskey Invitational	A	9:00	7:00
Monday	May 12, 2003	Roscommon	A	4:00	TBA
Friday	May 16, 2003	Regionals	TBA	TBA	TBA

Underline denotes site of away game

ing Vikings s Tennis

Opponent	H/A	Event Time	Bus Time
Charlevoix	H	4:00	
Boyne City (JV)	H	4:00	
Etoskey (JV)	A	4:00	2:00
Charlevoix City St. Francis	H	4:00	
Iron Rapids (JV)	A	4:00	2:00
Charlevoix City Central (JV)	A	4:00	2:00
Arbor Springs (JV)	H	4:00	
Charlevoix Invitational	A	4:00	2:00
Alpena	A	9:00	7:00
Arbor Springs (JV)	H	4:00	
Charlevoix Invitational	A	4:30	2:00
Etoskey (JV)	H	4:00	
Regionals	TBA	TBA	TBA
Charlevoix City Central (JV)	A	4:00	2:15

Grayling Vikings Junior Varsity Softball

Day	Date	Opponent	H/A	Event Time	Bus Time
Monday	April 14, 2003	Roscommon	H	4:00	3:00
Wednesday	April 16, 2003	Houghton Lake	H	4:00	
Monday	April 21, 2003	Charlevoix	A	4:30	2:30
Tuesday	April 22, 2003	Tawas	A	4:00	2:00
Thursday	April 24, 2003	Elk Rapids	H	4:30	
Monday	April 28, 2003	Kalkaska	A	4:30	3:15
Tuesday	April 29, 2003	Oscoda	H	4:00	
Thursday	May 1, 2003	Boyne City	H	4:30	
Tuesday	May 6, 2003	East Jordan	A	4:30	2:30
Thursday	May 8, 2003	Harbor Springs	H	4:30	
Monday	May 12, 2003	Traverse City St. Francis	A	4:30	2:30
Thursday	May 15, 2003	Pinconning	H	4:00	
Monday	May 19, 2003	League Make-up			
Tuesday	May 20, 2003	West Branch Ogemaw Heights	A	4:00	2:10
Thursday	May 22, 2003	Bay City John Glenn	A	4:00	1:30

Grayling Restaurant

Jansen Insurance Agency

Fick & Sons

Charlie's Country Corner

Arby's

Super 8 Motel

Grayling Youth Booster Club

Ole Dam Rd Party Store

Kentucky Fried Chicken

Grand Traverse Allergy

N'Orthopedics P.C.

Pizza Hut

Little Caesars

Grayling Physical Therapy

Dr. Toupin

A Cut Above

Rochette's

Goodales Bakery

Northern Michigan Allergy Dr. Tim Linehan

Dr. Dean / Dr. Aubry

Northland Area Credit Union

Boards & Beyond

Jack Millikin

JJ's Motor Mall

Dr. Denholm

Buccillis

Grayling Country Club

BAYOLDNSAND FEATURES

A LOOK AT OUR PAST FROM THE PAGES OF THE AVALANCHE

23 Years Ago

April 3, 1980

Grayling City Manager, Jerry Morford, will be joined by other city luminaries at a ribbon-cutting ceremony for MAC Distributing of Grayling. The new business is just the beginning of more jobs for the area, an improved business climate and a promise of continued economic growth for Grayling.

The Crawford-AuSable School District has taken a great step forward in Health Security for our Community by expanding the required Health course for graduation from Grayling High School to include Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation and Standard First Aid and Personal Safety Training.

Crawford County stands to receive \$1.2 million in Housing and Urban Development funds for fiscal years 1980 through 1982. The grants to Crawford County will be used primarily for housing rehabilitation. The Crawford County grant of \$1.2 million was the largest made under the program.

Steven Stinson, ten year old son of Louis and Sharon Stinson, was one of the Webelo Scouts honored at the Blue and Gold Awards Dinner held in Gladwin. Steve was awarded his athletic pin and his naturalist pin.

The Board of Trustees of the Michigan Veterans Trust Fund announced the reappointment of Larkin C. Baker, of Frederic, to continue serving on the Crawford County Veterans Trust Fund Committee.

The Grayling Jaycees, in the midst of their second successful Jelly Week, are nearing completion of their goal of selling 1,200 jars of jelly.

Grayling High School Track Coach, Merilee Cheney, said her

team performed well following a seventh place Class C finish at the Ferris State College Girl's Invitational Track meet.

Thirty teams entered the event, won by North Muskegon High with 52 points. The Vikings garnered 19 to capture the seventh slot at the meet.

Freshman Beth Jones was the lone Viking first place winner leading all the way to capture top spot in the two mile event.

The Annual Ski Team Banquet held last Wednesday raised \$105.50 for the Hanson Ski Area.

Special Ski Team award winners were Stephanie Fick, four year racer; John Huss, Number one boy racer and most consistent skier; Jean Wieland, Number one girl racer, most consistent 1980 and Most Valuable Skier Award 1980; Toni Trudgeon, four year racer award and 1980 most consistent racer award; Bill Martella, second on team in total wins and Sheri Wieland, second on team in total wins.

Coach Bill Bedford's Middle School Wrestling Team captured its tenth straight wrestling tournament championship over the past five years with a win at Benzie Central.

Signs of Spring-remodeling of an old shed near the railroad tracks! What a great improvement! The Welcome Grayling signs at the entrances to town are attractive.

46 Years Ago

April 4, 1957

Seven hundred fifty voices will blend in song in the new Grayling High gym next Thursday, when the District 9, Michigan State Vocal Association's Glee Club Festival is held.

The Fourth Annual Grayling Trade Show sponsored by the Grayling Woman's Club will open for its two

day stand in the Grayling High School Gymnasium next Friday.

Grayling merchants are going all out to bring the best show yet. New and novel booths with lavish displays of merchandise will be a feature of the show.

The Grayling Woman's Club held their business meeting and announced new officers for the next year. Mrs. John Alef will serve as president, Mrs. Robert Bovee elected vice-president, Mrs. Mary Farmer, second vice-president, Mrs. Richard DuBois, recording secretary, Mrs. Glen Fenton, treasurer, and Mrs. Don Gothro, corresponding secretary.

The Grayling High Vikings at an assembly last week, presented the District and Regional Michigan High School Athletic Association Basketball Tournament trophies to the school. Members of the team include Oscar Horning, Co-captain Bob Strong, Co-captain Dave Lowe, Bill Martin, Don Roberts, Tony Doremire, Aubrey Welch, Bob Houghton, Ronnie Case, Don Campbell, Newt Allison, Jim Kesseler, manager Larry LaGrow and Roger Hatfield.

School finances were the subject for discussion at the regular P.T.A. meeting held March 25.

Superintendent Joseph Stripe stated that even if a millage is voted on, the school will be \$11,000 short of what it needs to operate, according to the tentative budget compiled for 1957-58.

The Nickel and Dime buffet supper sponsored by the Feldhauser P.T.A. Saturday served one hundred forty-seven persons, and successfully enabled the P.T.A. to finish payments of a movie projector for the Feldhauser School.

Crawford County residents will have a bigger individual income tax bill to pay this year. This is not a result from higher taxes, rather a higher income, which translates to higher taxes.

According to the latest annual returns, made last March, an estimated yield of \$687,000 was gained from the county.

69 Years Ago

April 5, 1934

It was a tight race for the office of supervisor of Grayling Township between Fred Niederer, Republican and Frank Sales, Democrat, the former winning by a vote of 249 to 234.

Grayling has been honored by being selected by the North Road Open Hornung Club of Detroit for one of their race stations to fly their pigeons from. Birds will be shipped from Detroit and will be liberated about 6 a.m. Sunday morning.

The Grayling Lumberjacks decided it was time that they won their annual independent basketball tournament themselves, and after holding on to a 20 point defeat over Clare, they won the high honor and the gold basketballs at the annual tournament.

The sixth fire of the week occurred last Wednesday when the McClain Fish Factory was consumed by flames with loss of the entire building and its contents.

92 Years Ago

April 6, 1911

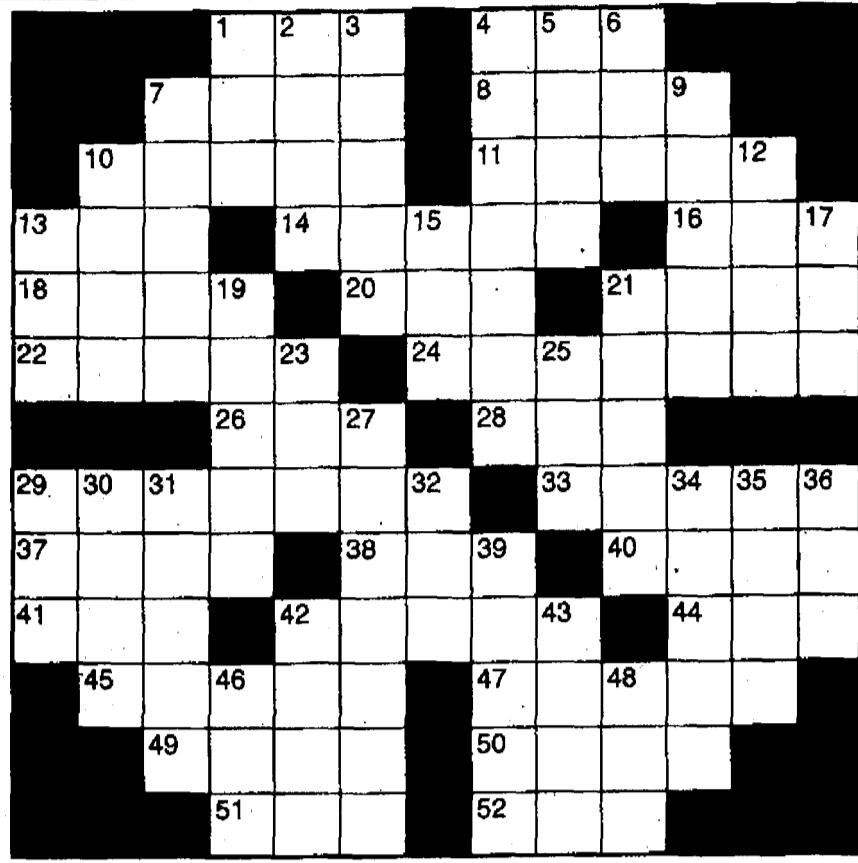
T.E. Douglas and Company are going to install another shingle machine in the mill at Lovells, to handle increasing business.

The population of our town has increased wonderfully lately as forty-one are registered here.

Tuesday was Hospital Day in Grayling. The honor and glory of the success belongs to the ladies of Grayling, who worked so hard and faithfully. The reception committee attended to the two thousand and more persons and showed them through the building.

The unanimous opinion of everyone is that the hospital is a modern and up-to-date institute.

CROSSWORD



ACROSS

- 1. Girlish: abbr.
- 4. Bedouin cloak
- 7. Presidential nix
- 8. He carries on for Carson
- 10. Begin's Camp David partner
- 11. Mineral
- 13. "Annie Get Your ___"
- 14. Iced-tea flavoring
- 16. Wool cap
- 18. Expanse
- 20. ___ Joaquin
- 21. Director Clair
- 22. Sign, on the Seine
- 24. Esteemed
- 26. Snug ___ bug in a rug (2 wds.)
- 28. Brillo rival
- 29. Lacking direction
- 33. India's neighbor
- 37. Sinking-in phrase
- 38. Undermine
- 40. Country star McEntire
- 41. Pot cover
- 42. More buttonlike?
- 44. Merino male
- 45. More respectable
- 47. Lose one's poker face
- 49. Cryptographer's subject
- 50. Egad, egad, egad!
- 51. Pulp author Buntline
- 52. Three, to Luigi

DOWN

- 1. Gave breakfast to
- 2. Common Latin abbr.
- 3. Tiny specks
- 4. Hershey Bar nuts
- 5. "I've ___ Working On The Railroad"
- 6. Aardvark's ort
- 7. Barn toppers
- 9. Tom Mix two-reeler
- 10. By all means!
- 12. Strike site
- 13. Silence by force
- 15. Barnyard sound
- 17. It's between sm. and lg.
- 19. "I could ___ unfold..." (*Hamlet*) (2 wds.)
- 21. Glee club platform
- 23. Paris-to-Zürich dir.
- 25. Before Tue.
- 27. Confident
- 29. Be miserable
- 30. "...pudding ___ the eating" (2 wds.)
- 31. Doc
- 32. Made a lap
- 34. Roost
- 35. Blind as ___ (2 wds.)
- 36. Crook's hasty departure
- 39. Presidential wild card of 1992
- 42. Give over
- 43. Back part
- 46. One in the stir
- 48. Chowed down

ANSWERS IN THE CLASSIFIEDS

RECIPE OF THE WEEK

Gourmet Dog Biscuits

2 cups whole-wheat flour
1/2 cup dry nonfat milk
1 cup (8 ounces) finely shredded mild cheddar cheese, room temperature
10 ounces frozen, chopped spinach, thawed and drained
1 cup (2 sticks) margarine, softened
2 cloves of garlic crushed
water, if necessary
1 bag Wilton White Candy Melts® (to decorate)
1 bottle Wilton rainbow nonpareils (to decorate)

Spray cookie sheet with vegetable pan spray. In a

food processor, process cheese, spinach, margarine and garlic. Add dry ingredients. Chill one hour. Roll out onto floured surface. Cut with dog, cat or bone-shaped cookie cutter. Bake on prepared cookie sheet at 300°F for 30-45 minutes or until light brown. When cool, store treats in an airtight container.

Optional Decorating Instructions: Melt white candy melts according to instructions on package. Dip ends of dog treats into melted candy melts and sprinkle with nonpareils. Using melted candy melts and a disposable decorating bag, write pet's name on treats.

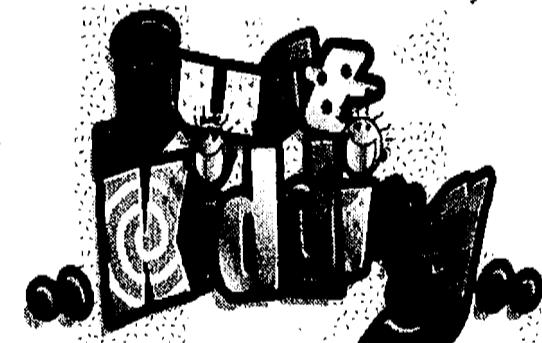
SEEK AND FIND

FIND THESE WORDS IN THE PUZZLE BELOW.

ACRYLICS EASEL OILS
BRUSH FRAME PAPER
CANVAS INK PASTELS
CHARCOAL MARKERS PENCIL

THE WORDS READ UP, DOWN AND ACROSS.

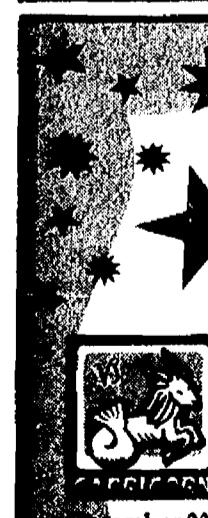
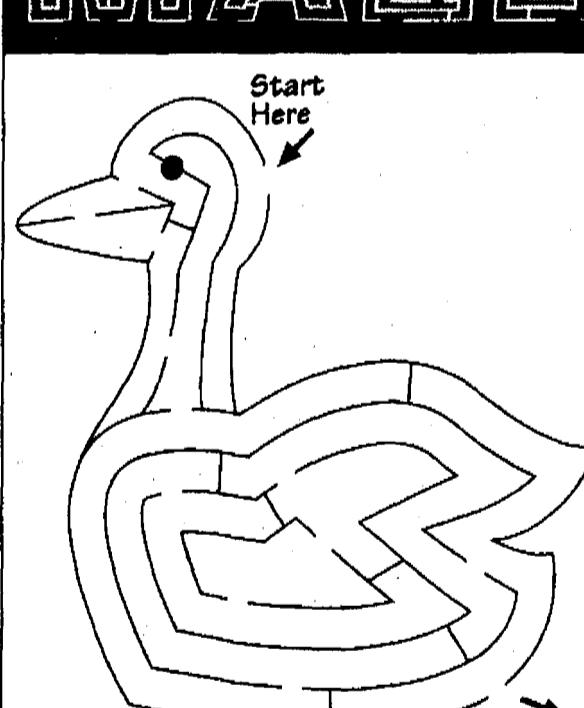
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DID YOU KNOW

SCUBA is an acronym for Self Contained Underwater Breathing Apparatus.

MAZE



Spring is here, and romance is in full bloom. A new love will come into your life or an old one will burn brighter than ever.



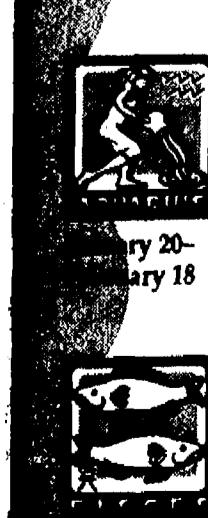
Your family has asked a lot of you this week. Before you do them any more favors, consider your health. You are so rundown now that if you push any harder you could become ill.



A coworker has received a glowing review, but it is starting to go to their head. Keep your thoughts to yourself. The matter will soon resolve itself.



Turning thoughts into action is easier said than done. But go ahead and take a stab at it. You will do better than you think.



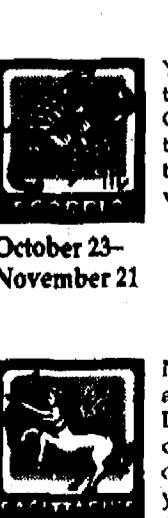
Dealing with pushy people is not your strong point, but this week, you'll be up to the task. An elderly friend is lonely; take the time to visit them.



You are inspired by others to improve your life. However, bad habits are hard to break, so don't try to change everything at once.



Socially, this week looks promising. You will be the center of attention at work and at home, and your calendar will be booked solid. Have fun!



You feel the need to get out of town. Go ahead and make travel plans, but this time, be daring and visit someplace new.

Adopt a Pet



Emmy Lou is a great Beagle mix puppy. She is about 5 months old, has been spayed and has her shots. All she needs now is someone to take her home and love her. Please call (989) 348-4117 for more information on opening your home to a homeless animal. Or, email: animal_director@yahoo.com.

Winter is especially hard on the water buckets used to haul water to the dogs at the shelter. We could use some donations of 2 1/2, 3, and 5 gallon buckets. We are also in need of blankets, throw rugs, towels, bleach, laundry soap and dishwashing liquid. Any help the community can provide is most appreciated, especially by the animals.

There are still a few Dog-Oopoly and Wild Animal-Opoly games available! Cost is a donation \$25 each and all proceeds go to help the animals in our care. Creature Comforts Cookbooks are still available for a donation of \$15. Call the shelter for details or stop in the Avalanche for either item.

The Animal Shelter of Crawford County is located at: 508 1/2 Huron Street (M-72 East) in Grayling Between the Road Commission and the Eagles Hall

Hours: Mon. - Sat. 9 am - 1 pm; Sun. and Holidays 8 am - 11 am
After hour appointments available. Call (989) 348-4117

WEATHER		Courtesy of the City of Grayling				
		Extended Forecast (Courtesy of the Weather.com)				
		Last Week		Extended Forecast		
Date	High/Low	Rain	Snow	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3/26	51/20					
3/27	47/19					
3/28	42/20	.24				
3/29	57/24	.13				
3/30	28/13	.07	T			
3/31	35/13	.02	1	Showers	Showers	Party
4/1	37/13	.10	T			Cloudy

ADVERTISING CLASSIFIED

Crawford County Avalanche

1 Real Estate

MOBILE HOME PARK & Camp Ground Land Contract terms. (989) 348-8959 (7/11/02tf/1)

1 Real Estate

NINE APARTMENTS and Living Quarters and four nice motel units with Jacuzzi's. \$40,000 down. Land Contract terms. (989) 348-8959 (7/11/02tf/1)

1 Real Estate

STOP RENTING for as low as \$500 - \$1,000 down and a small monthly payment. You can own your own home and have it paid for in two years. Timberly Village Mobile Home Park. (1/23/03tf/1)

1 Real Estate

MANY NORTHERN MICHIGAN PROPERTIES www.century21grayling.com (1/7/99tf/1)

NEWLY BUILT 3 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath. Two car attached garage. Five miles east of Grayling. \$92,000 (989) 348-4840 (-3-10-17-24/1)

Classifieds must be paid for in advance

Display Advertising Rate - \$6.90 per column inch

Deadline for Display Classifieds - 12 noon, Monday

Classifieds by the word rate - \$5.00 for 15 words or less, 10¢ per each additional word; includes Internet listing:

www.townnews.com/avalanche/

Classifieds by the word deadline - 12 noon, Tuesday



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\$128,500 #5075 Ask for Connie!



River Country Real Estate • 2375 S. I-75 Bus. Loop
(989) 348-5474

THREE BEDROOM, TWO

BATH ranch style home. 1,768 sq. ft. with attached breezeway and double car plus garage. Double plus lot in Karen Woods Subdivision just one mile from town off M-72 West in Grayling. \$128,900 (989) 348-2431 (-3-10-17-24/1)

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"GREAT FAMILY HOME" only one block from Lake Margrethe. 3 bedroom, 2 bath home with large living room with vaulted ceilings and a wet bar for entertaining. New roof in 2001 and all appliances included. FF-1720 \$64,900

BECOME A HOMEOWNER

Northern Homes CDC is offering free homebuyer Counseling classes for the MSHDA sponsored program links to Homeownership. Families with a related minor child living in the home, or a pregnant applicant/co-applicant who meet financial program guidelines are eligible. These classes can assist you with potential down payment assistance, credit repair, pre-purchase inspections and maintenance training. Classes are now forming. Call Alice Yeoman at 866-637-1834 Toll Free. Northern Homes CDC is a private non-profit organization whose mission is to create affordable housing opportunities in Northern Michigan. Equal Housing Opportunity. (LR4/3/03/1)

LOW LOW MORTGAGE RATES Loan Closing three weeks or less. Northland Area Credit Union. 1-800-336-2328 (8/8/02tf/1)

GRAYLING TOWNSHIP

Vacant lots for sale. 1/2 acre wooded, main road. \$13,900 each. Krausmann Realty. (248) 333-8888 (LR6/19/03/1)

RE/MAX
OF
Grayling



River Country Real Estate • 2375 S. I-75 Bus. Loop
(989) 348-5474



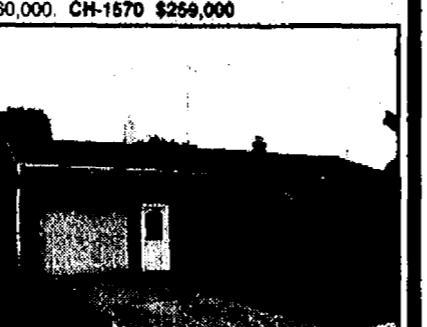
Lake Margrethe Access! 1,200 s.f. spotless home overlooking Lake Margrethe, 3 B/R, 1 bath, 2 doorways onto 26 x 12 porch, light and bright interior. 24 x 26 detached garage, concrete apron, and sidewalk. All appliances included. Great year around home or seasonal cottage. CH-1719 \$98,500



Lake Margrethe Access cedar sided 1,400 s.f. Home. 3 B/R, 2 baths, master B/R suite w/built in wardrobe and entertainment center. Vaulted knotty pine beamed ceiling in great room. Kitchen has custom hickory cabinets and ceramic tile flooring and counter tops. Two doorways onto brick patio, split rail fence brick pillars, landscaped yard w/sprinkling system. Brick sidewalks, and planters. To include dishwasher, garbage disposal, micro, stove, and refrigerator. CH-1375 \$139,900



A&W RESTAURANT, excellent business opportunity. 9,000 daily traffic count, all fixtures, equipment, menus and inventory on site. 2,825 s.f., seats 88 people, 11 station call-in (Car Hop), 16x130 canopy. Sales and expenses on file. On Site Home for residency also available for \$60,000. CH-1570 \$250,000



QUALITY BUILT TOWNHOUSE in desirable Viking Village. Spacious 1,184 s.f., 2 B/R, 2 bath, double Andersen Windows and doorways onto patio, central A/C, breakfast nook, all appliances included, formal entry, large living room with vaulted ceiling, drywall interior, spotless move in condition. 15x22 attached heated and finished garage, black-top drive, sprinkling system. Beautiful secluded setting, located just outside city limits. Amenities provided i.e. grass/shrub trimming, snow removal, garbage pick-up. Excellent Opportunity. First unit offered for ownership. Ask for condo bylaws. Visual Tour at remaxofgrayling.com CH-1642 \$93,900



COMPLETELY REMODELED HOME in the City of Grayling. Close to schools, hospital, and shopping. New plumbing, heating, roof and siding. 3 B/R, 2 bath, full finished basement (egress window in basement B/R), recess lighting, sliding door onto rear deck, six panel pine interior doors, and open staircase. 16x24 garage and fenced back yard. CH-1628 \$82,900



Lifetime Fees to Sk & Golf

Included! Great 1.72 acre parcel at an awesome price! Includes 2 lifetime memberships to golf course and ski resort for a total value of \$200,000. Seller also offering a \$5,000 builder discount on a contract to build a home for a minimum of 1,700 square foot or larger. Some building restrictions apply. \$99,900

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Associate Realtor

Larry Moore
Associate Realtor

Laurel Jamison
Broker/Owner
Office Manager
Associate Broker

Bonnie S. Odell ABR
Office Manager
Associate Broker

SALES TEAM



LOCATION*LOCATION*LOCATION! Motel located on I-75 Business Loop just North of M-72. 18 units, some are apartments rented monthly, some are with kitchens rented weekly or monthly. 3 jacuzzi rooms and 1 other motel unit rented nightly. Lots of possibilities. \$243,000 #225808

Well-Cared-For Mobile with Land Contract! Nice 2 bedroom, 1 bath starter home or rental investment on large lot. Good condition, well taken care of. Seller will consider land contract with approved credit buyer. \$28,900 #225830

Home with Acreage! This 4 BR, 2 bath home offers country and space. 30'x36' pole barn and large storage building. Home built in 1991 and remodeled in 1995. Gas fireplace, fenced-in back yard, screened-in front porch and mud room. State line in front and rear of home. \$158,900 #225856

Home in Quiet Sub! Nice 3 BR, 2 bath home in quiet subdivision close to town. Blacktop drive, screened front porch, 10' x 14' storage shed, ready to move into. \$74,000 #222544

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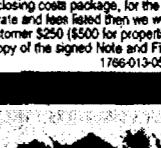
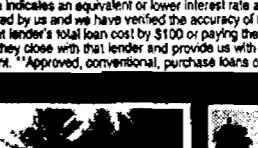
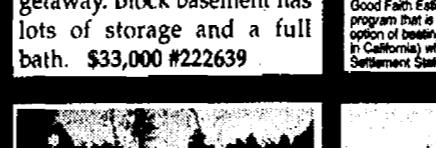
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**Approved, conventional, purchase loans only.

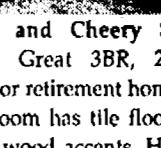
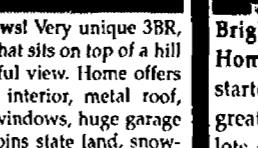
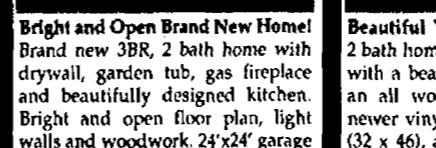
Central Air * Workshop * Privacy! Private 2 BR, 2 bath home with central air, new cabinets, a wood stove, and a 10'x24' screened-in porch. Also offers a 30'x40' heated and air-conditioned pole barn with workshop. \$99,900 #222891



Bright and Open Brand New Home! Brand new 3BR, 2 bath home with drywall, garden tub, gas fireplace and beautifully designed kitchen. Bright and open floor plan, light walls and woodwork. 24'x24' garage to be constructed prior to closing, or a 24'x32' garage option for an additional \$2,500. \$89,900 #223058

Beautiful Views! Very unique 3BR, 2 bath home that sits on top of a hill with a beautiful view. Home offers an all wood interior, metal roof, newer vinyl windows, huge garage (32 x 46), adjoins state land, snowmobile trails in all directions and not far from cross country skiing trails. \$98,500 #223322

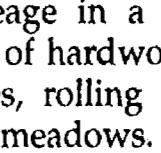
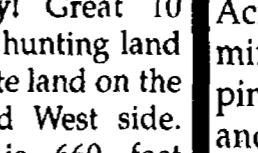
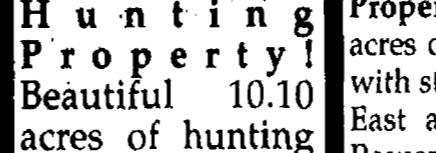
Bright and Cheery Starter Home! Great 3BR, 2 bath starter or retirement home. The great room has tile floors and lots of wood accents. Home is very bright and cheery. New pole barn. \$88,000 #222640



Beautiful Hunting Property! Beautiful 10.10 acres of hunting and snowmobile country. Adjacent to thousands of acres of state land. \$24,900 #221105

10 Acres of Hunting Property! Great 10 acres of hunting land with state land on the East and West side. Power is 660 feet away. Priced right. Will accept a land contract for 3-5 years with 20% down. \$19,900 #220553

Wooded Acreage! Acreage in a nice mix of hardwoods, pines, rolling hills and meadows. Lots are in 10, 20, and 40 acre parcels. Prices from \$35,000 to \$120,000 #14849-14888



13+ Acres Near "Holy Waters!" Just minutes for the "Holy Waters" of the AuSable River and state land. Property fronts black-top road with power adjacent. Nestle a home in the middle of property for lots of seclusion. \$38,500 #222385

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COMMERCIAL BUILDING FOR SALE 3,600 sq. ft. on I-75 Business Loop in Grayling. 200 ft. of frontage by 300 ft. deep. 600 sq. ft. of office/retail and 3,000 sq. ft. of shop/warehouse area. \$129,000. Ask for Jerry. (989) 275-5445 (-3-10/1)

2. For Rent

OFFICE/RETAIL SPACE for rental, 1,200 sq. ft., immediate opening in neon plaza, Kalkaska. Call Sandy (231) 258-8377 between 9:00 to 3:00. (10/24/02tf/2)

ONE OR TWO BEDROOM upstairs apartment. Conveniently located downtown Grayling. \$375 per month, plus deposit, no pets. Call (989) 348-2833. (-3-10-17-24/2)

THREE BEDROOM, TWO BATH home at Lake Margrethe. Five years old, freshly painted inside. \$600 per month plus security. References, one year lease. No smoking only, no pets. (989) 348-8627 (3/13/03tf/2)

2 BEDROOM, 1 1/2 BATH VIKING VILLAGE APART-

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SPACIOUS ONE BEDROOM

The Grayling Housing Commission currently has 1 bedroom (senior/disabled) apartments available. Rent is based on 30% of gross adjusted income or \$400 maximum rent. Utilities included or a utility allowance is applied. Please call 348-9314 for more information or stop in at 308 Lawndale.

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SPRING CLEAN UP Tree/brush rubbish removal, also landscaping work. Call (989) 348-5817. Free estimates. (-27-3-10-17/4)

3. Employment

Payne & Dolan, Inc. is seeking a Paving Foreman, Grading Foreman, Asphalt Plant Foreman, Paver Operator, Blade Operator, Roller Operators and Laborers to work on its construction crews. Work will include state, municipal and private jobs. Applicants must be at least 18 years of age and have a valid drivers license, and dependable transportation. A CDL license will be required for some positions. Work will be seasonal and primarily located in Northern Lower Michigan and Eastern Upper Michigan. Women and minorities are encouraged to apply. If interested please apply in person by April 23, 2003 at the following address: Payne & Dolan, Inc. 1029 Gornick Ave., Suite 105, Gaylord. EEO Employer/AA Employer.

TEMPORARY EMPLOYMENT POSITION

Crawford County Emergency Management has a temporary part time position to update and enhance the Emergency Operations Plan.

This is a grant funded position beginning April 21, 2003 and concluding by December 15, 2003.

Applicants should be familiar with police, fire, EMS, public works, and human services procedures. Bioterrorism and WMD knowledge is a plus. Computer/typing skills necessary. Travel will be required.

Additional information on the position available at the Emergency Management Office located in the Central Dispatch building.

Resumes and/or applications will be accepted until 4:00 p.m., April 11, 2003 at the Crawford County Office of Emergency Management, 202 W. Michigan Ave., P.O. Box 146, Grayling, MI 49738-0146 An Equal Opportunity Employer

INSTRUCTOR, SPEECH: Kirtland Community College is accepting applications for a part-time instructor to teach speech during the Summer, 2003 semester. Master's degree and related experience preferred. Interested applicants should submit a cover letter, resume, and copies transcripts by May 2, 2003 to Dale Shantz, Human Resources Department, Kirtland Community College, 10775 N. St. Helen Road, Roscommon, MI 48653, (989) 275-5000, Ext. 271. Kirtland Community College is an equal employment opportunity/affirmative action employer. Visit our web site at: <http://www.kirtland.edu>.

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MUNSON HEALTHCARE

Full-time benefited scheduling position open at Munson Home Care in Gaylord. Successful candidate has excellent problem solving and customer relations skills, is organized, energetic, dependable, and a self-starter. Computer skills and knowledge of northern Michigan a plus.

For more information call:

Dawn Webber, Manager

(800) 252-2065 or (989) 731-2386

or send resume to: **Munson Home Care**

825 North Center, Suite #160

Gaylord, MI 49735

Fax: (989) 731-2378

REGISTRAR: Kirtland Community College is accepting applications for a registrar. Qualified applicants will have the ability to coordinate college registration activities and maintain student record system. Bachelor's degree and 3-5 years experience required. Hourly pay rate of \$13.61 - \$19.74 commensurate with education and experience; excellent fringe benefit package. Send letter of application, resume, and three letters of reference to Dale Shantz, Human Resources Department, Kirtland Community College, 10775 N. St. Helen Road, Roscommon, MI 48653. Applications will be accepted until April 25, 2003. Kirtland Community College is an equal employment opportunity/affirmative action employer. For a complete position description, visit our web site at: <http://www.kirtland.cc.mi.us> or call 989-275-5000, Ext. 239.

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J. DAP CO. is having a Bead Night. Monday, April 7 from 6:00-8:00. Come on in and bring your beading supplies or you can purchase supplies from us. J. Dap is located at 118 Michigan Ave., in Grayling. For more info call us at (989) 348-4011. (-3/5)

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FURNITURE Eight sets bunk beds, \$50 each. Love seat, \$20. Desks, \$20. Fax machine, \$10 or more. Call (989) 348-3169. (-3/5)

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6 Wanted

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KEYS FOUND in the Avalanche back parking lot. Call (989) 348-6811 to identify and claim. (-3/7)

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8 Announcements

GRAY ROCK CAFE Karaoke every Friday and Saturday night, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. 2123 Industrial Drive, Grayling. (989) 348-5181 (3/13/03tf/8)

"Thanks-Giving" Fest
Join us to give "Thanks" to a great mom, daughter, sister & mother. Join us to "Give" your donations to help Sandy Boersma through her cancer battle. April 5, 2003, 4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. \$5.00 dinner donation. \$20.00 for a family of 6. Full turkey dinner with all the fixings. Being held at Eagles Hall Public Welcome & Encouraged. Being put on by the Friends of Sandy Boersma.

GRAYLING EAGLES AUXILIARY 3465 will be having an Easter Feather Party Bingo, Sunday, April 13 at 1:30 p.m. Cash jackpot of \$300 as well as Ham baskets and other goodies. Bring a friend. We look forward to seeing you there. (-3/8)

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL TROOPS Anyone who has loved ones in the military and would like them remembered, please bring in names, addresses, photos to: Gray Rock Cafe where a wall has been dedicated in their honor. 2123 Industrial Dr., Grayling. (989) 348-5181 (-3/8)

GRAYLING HOLIDAY INN'S Speakeasy Saloon live entertainment. Wednesday thru Saturday bands playing. April 2 - April 5 Luie Entertainment. April 9 and 10 DJ Cal. April 11 and 12 Funkilinium Happy Hour is back. 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. 25 oz drafts, \$2; Bass Ale and Guinness Stout, 25 oz., \$5. (-3-10/8)

J. DAP CO. is having a Bead Night, Monday, April 7 from 6:00-8:00. Come on in and bring your beading supplies or you can purchase supplies from us. J. Dap is located at 118 Michigan Ave., in Grayling. For more info call us at (989) 348-4011. (-3/8)

SPRING TIME SPECIALS BBQ Ribs all you can eat on Saturday night. \$10.99. Senior Citizens get 20% off all regular menu prices on Sunday thru Thursday. 1/2 pound Lake Perch Special for \$9.95 on Fridays. Happy Hour every day at 4:30 to 6:30. \$1.50 for all Domestic Beer and well drinks. 24 oz. Domestic Drafts for \$1.75 during NASCAR on Sundays. Skyline Restaurant open 7 days a week at noon. I-75 at Exit 251. (989) 275-5445 (-3-10/8)

COME TO The Ole Barn April 4 and 5 to see the spectacular band "Dirt Poor". Starts at 9 p.m. (989) 348-8999 (-3/8)

KARAOKE AT The Ole Barn every Thursday, 9 p.m. - 1 a.m. Grayling Idol Karaoke contest starts April 17. Weekly prizes and drink specials. Sing your heart out at The Ole Barn. (-3/8)

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9 Personals

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SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL TROOPS Anyone who has loved ones in the military and would like them remembered, please bring in names, addresses, photos to: Gray Rock Cafe where a wall has been dedicated in their honor. 2123 Industrial Dr., Grayling. (989) 348-5181 (-3/9)

FRIDAY, 12:00-6:00 Saturday 9:00-? Antiques, McCoy and Hull cookie jar, duck decoys, old dresser. Cast iron bath tub. 1938 ChrisCraft 14 ft. wood boat, needs restoring. Black bear rug. New AuSable River boat, skis and boots. CD changer, furniture, hand etched oil lamp and mirrors. Many collectible household. Much, much more. 249 S. Roberts. 1 mile north of hospital. (-3/10)

Having a Garage Sale?

Signs available at the Crawford County Avalanche office 102 Michigan Ave.

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'99 FORD WINDSTAR SLE Mint condition. White with gold trim, leather, power, deluxe. 75,000 miles. \$13,000 O.B.O. (989) 821-0321 (-3/11)

1994 CHEVROLET 350, Silverado, 4 x 4 truck. 98,000 miles \$5,500 (989) 348-8258 (-20-27-3/11)

ADVERTISING DEADLINES: Regular Display - 1/2 to full page, 5 p.m. Thursday, All others 5 p.m. Friday. Classified Display - 12 noon Monday, Classified by the word - 12 noon Tuesday. These deadlines may change with notice due to holidays or special publication.

1991 GMC SIERRA extended 4WD, Z71 350 automatic, loaded. 1991 has engine warranty remaining, excellent condition, matching Fiberglass cap, never any rust. \$7,900 (989) 348-8659 message. (1/23/03tf/11)

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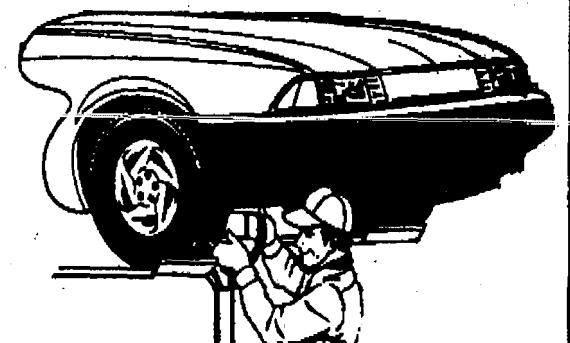
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Monthly Income _____ Signature _____

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\$7.20	\$7.30	\$7.40	\$7.50	\$7.60	\$7.70	\$7.80
\$7.90	\$8.00	\$8.10	\$8.20	\$8.30	\$8.40	\$8.50
\$8.60	\$8.70	\$8.80	\$8.90	\$9.00	\$9.10	\$9.20

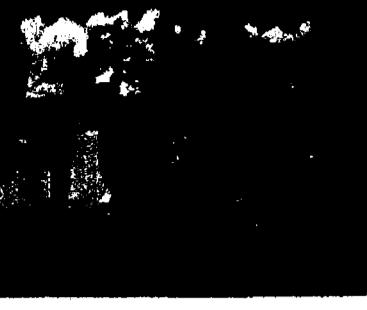
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Thursday, April 3, 2003

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Five people injured in ambulance rollover

by Cherryl Ruley
Staff Writer

An out-of-area ambulance transporting a patient from Sault Ste. Marie to Lansing rolled over in slippery road conditions early Tuesday morning on I-75, between Four Mile Road and the US-127 split.

Ambulance personnel made an urgent call to Crawford County 911 Central Dispatch at about 1:45 a.m. on April 1, reporting "multiple injuries," and requested the Jaws of Life.

Michigan State Police Troopers out of the Houghton Lake Post responded to the scene and reported "terrible road conditions" in the area due to snow.

Personnel from Beaver Creek Township Fire Department were dispatched and were on scene within minutes of the accident. Mobile Medical Response personnel also responded. Three people were treated at Mercy Hospital in Grayling and released. Two others were transferred to other hospitals for further treatment.

The identities of the victims and the extent of their injuries were not immediately available.

Former GMS teacher's sentencing put on hold

by Cherryl Ruley
Staff Writer

A former Grayling Middle School (GMS) math teacher was expected to be sentenced April 7 for making a bomb threat to the school last March, but court documents show the hearing was adjourned March 31 "until further notice."

46th Circuit Trial Court Chief Judge Alton T. Davis said Kathryn Anne Olson's attorney, Thomas Plachta, mentioned he might submit a mental health evaluation to the court, but the judge has yet to receive it. "Any decision on sentencing will require more information," explained Judge Davis.

"I am waiting to talk to the attorneys and don't want to proceed until I see what they have, if anything," said Judge Davis, who allowed Olson to travel to Utah, from March 27 through April 4, to attend her son's ski competition. She remains free on \$10,000 bond.

Olson pled guilty at a hearing last month and admitted, while under oath, that she made a phone call to Grayling Middle School principal Doniel Pummell on March 11, 2002 and stated, "Good luck trying to find the bomb at your school."

Olson waived her right to a jury trial with her guilty plea on March 3. She faces up to four years in prison and/or a \$2,000 fine and could be sentenced as early as May.

Crawford AuSable Schools' Superintendent Milli Haug was unavailable for comment.

Jumping rope for health - theirs and ours



Students had a variety of activities during the annual Jump Rope for Heart fund-raiser. Students from all three elementary schools in the district were together for the first time while participating in this activity.

by Susan Warrington
Staff Writer

The parking lot in front of Grayling Elementary was a hive of activity on the morning of March 27. Students from Frederic Elementary, Grayling Elementary and AuSable Primary participated in Jump Rope for Heart.

This program allows students to practice and perfect jump rope skills while promoting the benefits of lifelong heart healthy habits. It also allows them to give back to their community by helping in the fight against heart disease and stroke, the nation's number one and number three killers.

Students collect pledges before the event and many people are willing to contribute to

the event because it actively involves kids and helps to support the American Heart Association which is a co-sponsor of the event along with the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance.

Since the inception of the program over 20 years ago, students have raised more than \$305 million for medical research and programs that help children learn how to prevent heart disease and stroke.

This year the students spent two hours jumping rope, keeping hula hoops moving, trying to limbo and shoot baskets. The event was coordinated by Julie

Dunkley and Don Knapp who said the students earned over

\$8,000 this year.



Photos by Susan Warrington

It's not easy keeping those hula hoops going but these two seem to be having some success and lots of fun.

Michigan Guard units called to duty in Kuwait

► Fewer troops expected to train this summer at Camp Grayling

The Michigan Department of Military and Veterans Affairs announced last Friday two Michigan Army National Guard units will be deployed overseas in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Approximately 80 members of the 1437th Engineer Company out of Sault Ste. Marie, with an additional 27 soldiers from the Grand Rapids suburb of Wyoming, left March 28 for Kuwait.

About 100 members of the 1460th Transportation Company out of Midland, with an additional 35 soldiers from Jackson, were expected to leave for Kuwait the same evening.

The 1437th has been preparing for this deployment at Fort Campbell, KY since the unit departed Michigan on January 27. The 1460th has been making similar preparations at Fort McCoy, WI since leaving the same day.

The Michigan Army and Air National Guard have nearly 2,000 soldiers and airmen deployed both stateside and overseas.

**Continued on Page 2A
See "MICHIGAN GUARD..."**

Foot tappin' good time



Photo courtesy of Grayling Nursing Centre

Residents of Grayling Nursing Centre and special guests from Mercy Manor were entertained recently by country music singer, Michael Harding. Harding traveled from Nashville, TN to perform at nursing facilities throughout Michigan. He is currently working on releasing a CD and spends his time singing to nursing home residents and special performances. He will perform in Washington, D.C. next month.

The residents enjoyed the music, jokes and autographed photos they received from Harding. Many commented it was a pleasure to invite other nursing homes to join in the fun. It was nice to meet "the neighbors," they said.

Top - Mildred Taylor joins in a song with country singer, Michael Harding; bottom - Virginia Anderson "cuts the rug" with Harding at the Grayling Nursing Centre recently.

School board candidates have until April 7 to file

by Cherryl Ruley
Staff Writer

Two seats on the Crawford AuSable School District's Board of Education will be up for election June 9. Candidates have until 4 p.m. on Monday, April 7 to file their petitions.

One-term Board Trustee and retired Frederic Elementary School Principal, Melvin Nunn, announced in February he will not seek re-election.

Incumbent Gary Pettyjohn will be seeking his second full, four-year term.

As of Monday morning,

March 31, Pettyjohn, local optometrist William Dean, D.O., both of Grayling Township, and former school board member Lewis Madill, of Frederic, have filed or picked up petitions.

There is still time to pick up a nominating petition at the District's Central Office, located at 403 E. Michigan Avenue in Grayling, or pay a non-refundable \$100 filing fee in lieu of gathering signatures on a petition.

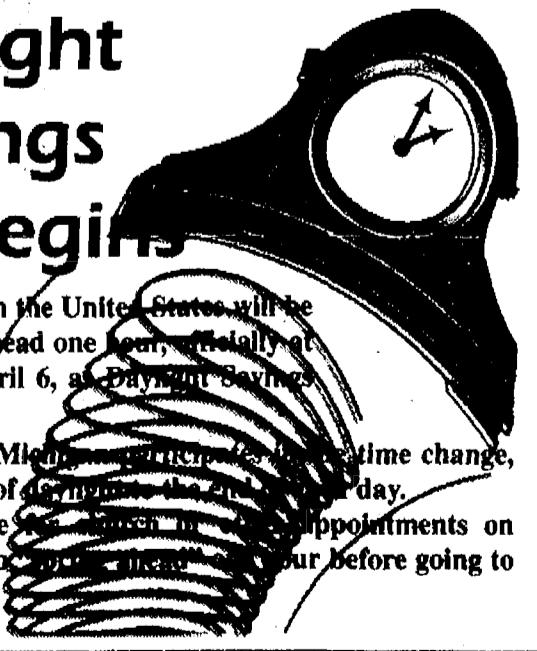
The last day to register to vote in the June 9 school election is Monday, May 12.

Daylight Savings Time begins

Most people living in the United States will be turning their clocks ahead one hour, officially at 2 a.m. on Sunday, April 6, at Daylight Savings Time begins again.

The entire state of Michigan will observe the time change, adding an extra hour of daylight the 24th hour of the day.

To avoid being late for work or appointments on Sunday, don't forget to set your alarm an hour before going to bed Saturday night.



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"Letters from Home"

The Crawford County Avalanche invites the parents and loved ones of active duty U.S. military members -- serving stateside or overseas, in any branch of the military -- to submit the mailing addresses of those service members for publication in upcoming editions of our newspaper.

At the suggestion of one of our readers, a listing of such addresses will be published each week, allowing our readers to "adopt" a soldier, sailor, or airman by writing them "Letters from Home."

The Letters from Home campaign is our way of saying "Thank You" to the men and women serving our nation during Operation Iraqi Freedom. We strongly encourage participation to allow each of our local service members to receive words of encouragement and news from the home front.

Help brighten the day of those who serve by allowing the community to write Letters from Home.

Please submit addresses by mail to the Crawford County Avalanche, P.O. Box 490, Grayling MI 49738; by fax at (989) 348-6806; or drop them off at our office located at 102 Michigan Avenue in Grayling. An after-hours mail slot is located on the bottom of the inner door for your convenience.

Letters From Home Addresses:

SSGT. Pernie T.J. USMC
MWHS-3 G-3
UIC 41002 Box 2506
FPO AP 96614-2506

SGT Melvin Middleton
405 AEW-ELRS
Operation Enduring Freedom
Unit 73004
APO, AE 09395-3004

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Sundaes, dogsled racing end reading month



Photo by Susan Warrington

School Board Trustee Jim Tobin was the final guest reader to appear at Frederic Elementary during National Reading Month.

by Susan Warrington
Staff Writer

Using the theory that you save the best for last, while the students at Frederic Elementary finished their second, third or fourth sundaes of the day, Jim Tobin read *Kiana's Iditarod* to them during the afternoon of March 27.

The students earned their reward by reading more than 6,000 books during National

Reading Month. Subs and ice cream sundaes, supplied by the Frederic Parent Teacher Organization and library paraprofessional Wendy Kucharek, were the order of the day for the readers.

Other guest readers during the month-long program were AuSable Primary Principal Barbara Mick, Grayling Elementary Principal Angela

Camp, Grayling Middle School (GMS) Principal Doniel Pummell, GMS Assistant Principal Jeff Branch, former Lead Teacher at Frederic Elementary Kim VanDrese, school board members Karl Schreiner and Pat Nunn, Deputy Bill Bonkowski, who oversees the D.A.R.E. and Safety Patrol programs and Frederic businessman Lewis Madill.

VFW seeks July 4 parade participants

Veterans of Foreign Wars Carl W. Borchers Auxiliary 3736 July 4th Parade

Entry Form

Name of organization: _____

Contact person: _____ Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____ Phone: _____

WILL BE ENTERING:

Float _____ Float with music _____ Marching Group _____ Marching with equipment _____

Band _____ Equipment _____ Bicycles _____ Animals _____ Organization _____

Animals and Equipment _____ What kind of animals? _____

Other _____

Please return this application on or before June 25, 2003 to one of the following:

Lou Ann Crosby 410 Knight St., Box #1 Grayling, MI 49738 Ph: (989) 348-8186

Marie Scott 3610 Jones Lake Road Grayling, MI 49738 e-mail: jobob@freeway.net

To celebrate the birthday of the United States of America -- July 4 Independence Day -- the Ladies Auxiliary to the Veterans

of Foreign Wars, Carl W. Borchers Post 3736 in Grayling will be organizing a parade.

Those interested in being in the parade, need to fill out the entry form and mail it to one of the Auxiliary members listed to be received no later than June 25, 2003. Make sure to include the

name and phone number of a contact person.

The July 4th Parade Committee looks forward to everyone joining them in celebration of our nation's birthday. Call Lou Ann Crosby at 348-8186 or e-mail Marie Scott at jobob@freeway.net for more information.

Bill would clear air on tax exemption

The state Senate passed legislation recently altering the name of the homestead tax exemption to alleviate any confusion with the homestead property tax credit.

Legislators have reported an

overwhelming amount of confusion between the two tax credit terms since the inception of Proposal A in 1994. Sponsors of the bill hope its passage will eradicate the confusion and allow Michigan residents to properly calculate their taxes and receive one or both of the credits, if eligible.

Twenty years after the homestead property tax credit was created, the implementation of Proposal A added statutory provisions for a homestead exemption. The credit and the exemption offer two separate ways for taxpayers to reduce their tax burdens, and qualified taxpayers may claim either or both.

Because both the credit and the exemption refer to "homestead," some taxpayers have been or become confused regarding their ability to qualify for both. Senate Bill 133 seeks to make a clear distinction between the homestead exemption and the homestead tax credit by changing the exemption name to "principal residence" exemption.

The change in terminology should also make it easier for township treasurers to explain the exemption and the credit to the public.

Senate Bill 133 has been sent on to the House of Representatives for consideration.

Habitat needs you!

by Cheryll Ruley
Staff Writer

Have recent world events got you glued to your television set... your mind constantly pondering the war in Iraq? Would you like to give your heart and mind a break from it all? Perhaps helping out in your own community is the answer.

The Crawford County chapter of the internationally-known home-building group, Habitat for Humanity, is in need of helping hands to continue its successful program at the local level. Volunteering for this program may be just what you need.

Volunteers are needed from leadership to construction and finish work; however, no special talents are needed to help... just a sincere willingness to reach out to your neighbor and say, "How can I help?"

Habitat for Humanity's mission is to build safe, secure homes for families who just need a hand up. The homes are not given away. Many hours of "sweat equity" must be performed by each new homeowner on his or her own home and/or that of another Habitat homeowner. Each new homeowner also makes house payments.

Materials to build new homes or refurbish existing homes are sometimes donated, or purchased by Habitat at reduced cost. Licensed builders donate their time and expertise to the building projects. Donations are essential to keep the program running and are tax-deductible as Habitat is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization.

Many who have experienced working with Habitat for Humanity find it to be the most rewarding time of their lives, and a healthy distraction from their everyday routines and life's troubles.

For more information on how you can get involved in this program to help bring affordable, safe and secure housing to those in need, call the local Habitat for Humanity office at 344-0804.

Michigan Guard units called to duty in Kuwait

Continued from Page 1A

Residents living in the area of Camp Grayling in Crawford County may notice the decrease in training activities at the facility and its firing ranges. About 4,000 less troops are expected to attend annual training this summer at the camp if the war in Iraq demands their support for a longer period of time overseas, as well as stateside.

A 30-percent decrease in training maneuvers at the air-to-ground range near Waters is expected as the A-10 "Warthogs" that normally practice there are currently deployed to Kuwait, supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom. However, Selfridge Air National Guard Base, in Mount Clemens, will continue to send F-16 fighter pilots to northern Michigan for training missions, as well as those from Toledo, OH.

Clarification

A new mailing address for ordering has been provided since an article was published last week announcing the American Legion Auxiliary's campaign to sell "Support Our Troops" bumper stickers for \$3 each and "Blue Star Service Pins" for \$8 each. Mail check or money order in the appropriate amount along with name and address and list of items requested to: American Legion Auxiliary Post #106, 106 James Street, Grayling, MI 49738. For more information, contact Jeri Seltzhofer at 344-2129.

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Viking Band members earn top ratings



Photo courtesy of the Crawford AuSable School District

2002-2003 Grayling Viking Band members who attended the MSBOA State Solo and Ensemble (in no particular order) are: Kip Franklin, Jason Henning, Nick Henning, Coleman Payne, Todd Gaffke, Ken Heinlein, Apryl Rugenstein, Will Brewer, Chris Bonnington, Monica Nemeth, Becky Ramaswamy, Austin Andrus, Nikki Lynch, Jennifer Rusiecki, Jenny Long, Samantha LeMaster, Erica Parker, Jessica Pfaff, Casey Mahaffy, Christin Morrell, Beth Brewer, Charley McNamara, Michael Sayers, Kyle Seewald, Mallory Olson, Anna Lepsy, Heather Stamper, Gail Hilliker, Lisa Adkison, Erica Parker, Jamie Wyss, Kim Long, Chelsea Curriston, Amanda St. Amour, Laura Gorski, Erin Morrell, Ellie Curriston.

Months of practice and hard work paid off March 22 as 35 members of the 71-member Grayling High School Viking Band scored well at Michigan Schools Band and Orchestra Association's (MSBOA) State Solo and Ensemble Festival at Central Michigan University in Mt. Pleasant.

Another facet of MYAF are the ensemble nominations. Ensembles nominated to audition are required to send in an audition tape to the MYAF committee by early April. Ensembles selected perform during the same concert as the All-Star Band and All-Star Orchestra.

Grayling Band members had three events nominated: Kip Franklin and Jason Henning with a clarinet duet, Casey Mahaffy and Ken Heinlein with a tuba/flute duet, and the GHS Clarinet Choir consisting of Jason Henning, Kip Franklin, Jennifer Rusiecki, Anna Lepsy, Beth Brewer, Samantha LeMaster, Chris Bonnington, Christin Morrell, and Jessica Pfaff.

All of these soloists and ensembles are honored just to be nominated for the audition process as only one to two percent of all solo and ensemble participants receive the invitation.

On the basis of their proficiency level and score, student musicians are also invited to perform in the All-Star Band or All-Star Orchestra. They are notified within a week after the State Solo and Ensemble Festival. "We are extremely proud of all of the GHS Band students that performed in the Solo and Ensemble Festival this year," said Janet Gaffke, president of the Grayling Viking Band Boosters.

The Grayling High School Band performed February 22 at the MSBOA District Band Festival in Elk Rapids, where the musicians performed for three judges and one sight reading judge. Pieces performed were "The Earle of Oxford's March" by William Byrd, arranged by Jacob; "Rhosymedre" by Vaughan-Williams, arranged by us."

Students may be nominated to audition for MYAF as a soloist which, after going through a grueling audition process, may be one of four soloists selected to

perform with the Youth Arts Festival Orchestra. Grayling had four events nominated for this honor: Todd Gaffke on alto saxophone, Jason Henning on clarinet, Ken Heinlein on tuba, and Todd Gaffke on soprano saxophone.

In addition to the successes achieved by the high school band, the Grayling Middle School bands are also scoring high. The Grayling Seventh Grade Band, under the lead teaching of Matt Bishop, Associate Director of Bands, and support teaching of David Gott, Director of Bands, qualified for MSBOA State Band Festival to be held the first weekend in May. This is the first 7th grade band from Grayling to qualify for State Band and Orchestra Festival since February, 2000.

The vast majority of seventh and eighth grade band members will participate April 12 in at least one event at the MSBOA Middle School Solo and Ensemble Festival to be held in Kalkaska. These students have been working diligently with their directors and accompanist, Jill Scarzo.

Scarzo has accompanied both Middle School and High School Solo and Ensemble events containing piano parts in selected pieces for many years and is a vital contribution to the success of the students. During her high school band days, Scarzo also was nominated as a soloist for the Michigan Youth Arts Festival.

"We simply could not have the results that we do without her support," Gaffke remarked. "After hearing a great many accompanists at the various festivals that we've attended over many years, Jill's ability to work with and accompany students is superior. Our students and schools are lucky to have such a talented musician working with us."

Band members from both the middle and high schools will be preparing for their upcoming Spring Concerts to be performed a little more than two weeks fol-

lowing the State festivals, and are free to the public. For more information on upcoming events and pictures from past events, visit www.casd12.net and click on "CASD Bands."

Flutist Casey Mahaffy earned a duet nomination to MYFA with tuba player Ken Heinlein (not shown).



Todd Gaffke earned two nominations as a soloist on alto saxophone and soprano saxophone.



Jason Henning and Kip Franklin's Clarinet Duet earned a nomination to audition for MYFA.

lowing the State festivals, and are free to the public. For more information on upcoming events and pictures from past events, visit www.casd12.net and click on "CASD Bands."

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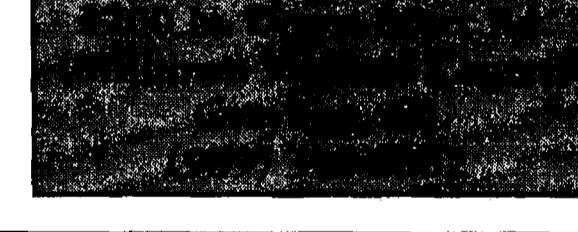
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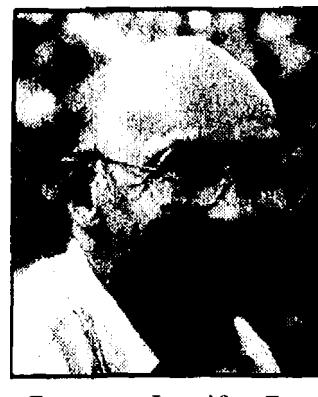
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April 12th - DJ
April 25th & 26th - Band "Southbound 73"

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Wednesday - Chili Dog & Chips
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Saturday - Sizzler Steak, Liver & Onions
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OPINIONS

Note: For more
'Issues and
Opinions,' see
Page 13A.



ALMANACK

by Richard Milliman

Ideas abound when thinking 'outside the box'

Governor Jennifer Granholm has challenged herself, her staff and all Michiganians to "think outside the box" for ways to help solve Michigan's multi-tudinous problems.

By this, presumably she means not to be hemmed in by past practice or tradition or the usual way of doing things, but come up with startling and new ideas.

With an open mind, wandering around outside the box can be invigorating. Ideas can sprout from anywhere.

For example, even in London, England.

London has a huge problem of traffic congestion. Too many vehicles every day pack the eight square mile central London area.

London Mayor Ken Livingstone went outside the box for an idea.

London has begun charging motorists \$8 per day to drive into central London. The reasoning is that tolls will reduce the number of vehicles on the streets, and thus relieve congestion.

It's too early to tell if the idea will

work. Mayor Livingstone expects his idea to reduce traffic in the center city by 20 percent, and to raise \$208 million a year to invest in public transportation.

There are risks for the mayor, of course. Facing reelection next year, Mayor Livingstone's potential opponents already are damning the idea and promising repeal.

The mayor accepts the political hazards, but is philosophical.

"What's the point of being in politics if you don't do something with your position," he muses.

* * *

BACK IN MICHIGAN, let's take Mayor Livingstone's plan a few steps further outside the box.

Michigan highways are congested and wearing away due to constant use and scarcity of funds for proper and steady maintenance.

More important right now, state government needs more money. Faced with the sacred mantra of "No New Taxes" by political decision makers of both parties,

available alternatives for budget makers are strictly limited.

So how about applying a London Vehicle Toll Plan in Michigan?

Why not charge every vehicle entering Michigan a daily toll? If a driver wants to come into the Water Wonderland state, he/she has to pay a \$10 toll per vehicle.

We could treat every road of every size coming into the state as a toll road, and charge vehicles for using them.

An entry toll would reduce wear and tear on Michigan roadways, and produce a bonanza for tax collectors, and Michigan could balance its budget without chopping all the life juices out of so many programs which are important only to people.

The state could enter a deal with local governments to collect the tolls -- after all, local governments know where all those country roads are located which crafty drivers might attempt to use to escape the toll on main highways. Then the state would rebate to local govern-

ments a percentage of the take, so local governments could replace funds the state is cutting out of revenue sharing to pay for fire protection and police patrols and other essentials of local government.

And if things really go well with the London Plan for tolls on incoming traffic, we also could extend the program to charge tolls on vehicles leaving the state, too. Under the modified London Toll Plan, there might be plenty of those.

Of course, this would not be a new tax, so it should pass muster with the legislature and the governor.

But it's a near-perfect "revenue enhancement." The government can collect from us both coming and going.

So there it is. It's really a lot of fun plodding around "outside the box." Try it sometime.

* * *

FREE SPEECH -- The irony is obvious, but it's important enough to bear repeating.

The City Club of Cleveland recently bestowed its "Citadel of Free Speech"

award to U.S. Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia who promptly ordered TV and radio reporters and cameras to leave the room before his acceptance speech.

That's Mr. Scalia's usual routine apparently. He will allow print reporters to cover his public speeches, as he did in Cleveland, but not electronic media.

The basis for the Cleveland club's selection of Justice Scalia for the award, incidentally, was his votes to permit flag burning and cross burning as expressions of free speech.

His views on the protection of dissent are worthy, in my opinion, but it's difficult for me to fathom his reasoning for banning broadcasters.

Apparently he believes that all media are not created equal.

Richard Milliman is a veteran newspaperman, and a contributing columnist to several Michigan newspapers.

Are you people really serious?

To the editor,

I am writing in regard to the letter about the Father/Daughter Dance. Are you people really serious? Discrimination?

P-l-e-a-s-e!

A great many people put a lot of time and effort into this event. They went out of their way to make this a wonderful time, not only for fathers and daughters, but for girls and any significant male role model in their lives. I'm sure if there was any little girl who really wanted to go, she could find someone to take them.

Are there any little boys in this community who are broken-hearted because they feel left out? I sincerely doubt it.

I only hope the people who were responsible for this event don't feel like all their efforts were in vain. I say rather than put them down, we commend them for the great job! I know that at least two of the people who worked so hard for this event had no daughters to take.

And, no, I had nothing to do with this event!

Kathy Piehl
Grayling

GHS grad writes from Kuwait

To the editor,

My name is SSGT Timothy J. Pernie, United States Marine Corps. I graduated from Grayling High School in 1989, along with my wife, Amy Jo Pernie (Denton). I am currently deployed to Kuwait, awaiting

a war with Iraq.

My wife Amy, and my two beautiful daughters are currently residing in our home in Pensacola, Florida. My daughters are Saje (age 10) and Chesney (age four).

I served 11-1/2 years active duty for the Marine Corps. I got out, off active duty, and decided to finish my time in the Reserves. I was deployed all the time while on active duty and it was hard on my family, and I did not think I would be right back to deploying 2-1/2 years later. I got activated on January 15 and left

Pensacola on January 28. My orders are for one year, but I pray I will be home before that.

Amy and I own four dance studios in Pensacola. For those who remember Amy, she was always taking and teaching ballet. She currently has 300 students and a staff of 18 people. I am so proud of her.

Our parents no longer live in the Grayling area, but we still consider it home. My parents, Donna and Patrick O'Grady now reside in Mt. Pleasant. Amy's parents, Morey and Deb Denton, currently reside in Wolverine.

Not sure whether or not the Avalanche still does a section on the military that graduated from Grayling High School. I would have typed it and double-spaced if I could have. Kinda hard in a tent in the mid-

dle of the desert.

If you run a story or article on this, could you please send me a copy of the Avalanche and one to my wife also? Please?

Feel free to put my address in the article... would be great to hear from old friends.

Serving Grayling, Pensacola, and the rest of our country,

Semper Fi
SSGT Timothy J. Pernie,
USMC
Kuwait

Write:
SSGT Pernie T.J. USMC
MWHS-3 G-3
UIC 41002 Box 2506
FPO AP 96614-2506

Editor's note: SSGT Pernie's letter was dated March 15, 2003.

Life's exclusions should not be taken personally

To the editor,

I am writing in response to the letter published last week regarding the Dads and Daughters Dance at the AuSable Primary Primary. I have spoken to friends with daughters who attended with their "dates" and heard how proud they were as well as being able to tell Mom she could not go.

The moms I heard speaking of this were all tickled by the excitement in their young daughters' eyes and voices with the thought of not only a first dance, but special time with Dad all to herself!

It is too bad that some felt it discriminating, which I am sure was not the intent. I, myself, saw it as a chance for dad and daughter bonding.

I know the feeling of being a single mom, as I raised my now grown daughters myself. I never got angry back then when there were special mom and son dinners or father/daughter dances, both of which my daughters or I could not attend if there was no male relative willing to step in and fill the spot for the evening. I don't feel it is really any different from the times my daughters could not go to other functions when money or job or other circumstances made it impossible.

I guess I was just able to explain to them that there were going to be many times in life when they would not be able to do certain things they may want to do, but they should never take it as a personal slight against themselves, such as being the wrong gender, not part of the "in" crowd, or not belonging to certain groups, i.e. Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, etc.

They grew up knowing that it

is merely impossible to do everything, no matter how bad they may want to, or even how bad I would like for them to be able to participate.

I am all for both sexes being allowed to do the same things, but only if they are really capable of doing so. But, at the same time, I feel there are times when it is fun to be different and special and to be able to do things that your brother or sister cannot do, and, yes, even your husband or your wife.

I am also aware there are times when discrimination is truly present. I do not, however, think this is one of those times.

I am sorry some took the innocence of a special evening for dads and their little girls to have a night out as a deliberate act against those not a dad or daughter. I hope the school board will not take that view and discontinue them.

Just a thought to those who felt left out. I used the following ideas with my daughters on occasion and it helped ease their temporary "slight." We would do something they considered special, like a trip for ice cream, or maybe dinner out, but then that was back when times were simpler.

I am also raising my granddaughter, almost 12 now, whom I have had since she was a baby, and I am doing the same with her. So far, it still seems to work. I hope this has given you a different outlook on the dance and maybe a few tips to help the kids and you cope without taking it personally.

Mary Garcia St.
Grayling

Keep your pets home

To the editor,

Would the people in the area of Ingham Street who have a large cat please keep it in the house and teach it to use a litter box.

We do not appreciate it coming up our steps all winter and using our planter box and flower garden for its bath-

room! The urine smell at our front door is a little overwhelming! If you love your pets, they should be kept inside or on restraints when taken for their walks.

The Bovees on Ingham Street Grayling

We must stand united

To the editor,

I would just like to express my belief on this war the United States is engaged in:

United, we stand; divided, we fall.

Does anything else really need to be said?

Written in respect for the troops.

Mark Yarger #252672
Camp Lehman
Grayling

DISCLAIMER

The opinions expressed in the letters and columns on this page are solely those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of The Crawford County Avalanche.

To the editor,

I read with great interest the "Viewpoint" of the Crawford County Board of Commissioners published in the March 27 issue of the Avalanche.

The Commissioners found

time to write what I believe are the views of the majority of citizens living in the United States of America.

Dave Wyman
Grayling

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Your views are welcome on the Opinion Page. Letters may be typed or handwritten, but please double-space or use every other line and limit to 500 words.

Every letter must be signed and an address and telephone number must be included to be considered for publication. Letters will not be published without the author's name. Telephone numbers are not published.

All letters are subject to editing and will be printed as space allows.

Deadline for submission of letters to the editor is Friday at noon for consideration for publication in the following week's paper.

Check us out on the Internet at www.townnews.com/cavalanche/

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The Commissioners found

time to write what I believe are the views of the majority of citizens living in the United States of America.

Dave Wyman
Grayling

BRIEFS

Choirs to perform Easter Cantata

The Kalkaska Area Community Choir will join with Elk Lake Community Choir to present "Glory to Glory" in an annual Easter Cantata, with four performances scheduled: Sunday, April 6 at 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Elk Rapids, under the direction of Cheryl Knight; and on Palm Sunday, April 13 at 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. at Kalkaska United Methodist Church in Kalkaska, directed by Sharyn Susinko. A free-will offering will be taken at the performances. For more information, call Sharyn Susinko at Pathways Arts Council, (231) 258-8697 or (231) 258-2979.

Dinner to benefit baseball players

A Smelt and Wing Ding Dinner is planned for Wednesday, April 9, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., at Northern Cafe in Grayling, to benefit Grayling High School baseball players who will be attending Baseball Summer Camp at Central Michigan University. Meal price is a donation of \$5 per person; take-outs will be available. Tickets are available from any player or coach, at the Grayling 7-11 store, S&K Foods, the Gray Rock Cafe, the American Legion, or at the door. For more information call 348-1088 or 348-3982.

Transplant support group to meet

The next Transplant Support Group of Northern Michigan meeting will be held Thursday, April 10 at 6 p.m. in the classroom at Otsego Memorial Hospital in Gaylord (Old U.S. 27 North - 825 N. Center Road). Guest speaker will be Dawn Zolnierik, Manager of the Social Security office in Petoskey, who will discuss disability compensation. This meeting is for anyone interested in organ and tissue donation, those who have received or who are waiting for an organ transplant and organ donor families. Any questions regarding the support group may be directed to Bev Cherwinski at (989) 983-4188.

Friends of Crawford Sheriff to organize

There will be a meeting of the Friends of the Crawford County Sheriff's Office on Tuesday, April 8, at 7 p.m. at the Grayling Eagles Hall. The group will begin to formally organize, establish membership and begin to assemble the board of directors. Anyone concerned with the public safety of all who live in the county are urged to attend. For more information, call 344-COPS.

Borchers VFW/Auxiliary to meet

The C.W. Borchers VFW Post 3736 and Auxiliary will meet at the American Legion Post 106 in Grayling on Tuesday, April 8. VFW will meet at 7 p.m., Auxiliary will meet at 3 p.m. This month is election time for the coming year, 2003-04. All members are expected to attend. Any veteran wishing to become a member: the VFW can now accept those who have proof of earning Hostile Fire or Imminent Danger pay and they are welcome to come to the meeting. Veterans need to bring a copy of their pay record indicating receipt of Hostile Fire or Imminent Danger pay. For more information, call Yetive Szkoenicki at 348-9806.

Sheriff to attend Lovells meeting

Crawford County Sheriff Kirk Wakefield will be attending the Lovells Township meeting scheduled for Tuesday, April 8 at 7 p.m. Anyone with questions or comments should feel free to attend this meeting. Sheriff Wakefield will be there throughout the meeting and, if necessary, remain afterwards for additional questions or comments.

Boot Camp Police Academy for youngsters offered

Kirtland Community College's Law Enforcement Department has issued an all points bulletin for youngsters interested enough in a future involving police work to accept a week-long challenge in its renowned Police Academy.

The Law Enforcement Career Academy -- an intensive training course scheduled for July 13-18 -- is aimed at juniors and seniors in high school.

"It'll be a mini boot camp, with each day beginning with PT (physical training) at 5 a.m."

explained Jerry Boerema, an associate dean who oversees

Kirtland's criminal justice program and law enforcement academies.

Students will live in our on-campus housing. They'll undergo firearms training, conduct building searches, study crime scenes, go on marine patrols with divers and search dogs and even learn some fancy marching.

"It's designed for kids who want to be police officers some day, so we're working with school liaison officers to screen serious applicants."

Participants also will have the opportunity to take the Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards (MCOLES) Pre-employment

Physical Agility Test. They also will have the chance to experience split-second decision-making in simulated life or death situations.

At the conclusion of the program, whether or not students still are interested in a career in law enforcement, an advisor from the college will assist them in making the important academic decision that may influence the rest of their lives, Boerema said.

Cost for the one-week academy is \$250, and some scholarship money may be available, Boerema said.

Candidates must be at least 16 years old and have a grade point average of at least 2.0. Along with a completed application, students also must submit letters of recommendation from a teacher and from the community leader such as a member of the clergy, a former employer or a coach.

They also must complete the Physician's Health Screening Form by a physician.

All completed packets must be in the hands of their liaison officers no later than May 1.

For more information, students should contact their liaison officers or phone Kirtland at (989) 275-5000, ext. 348.

RAFFLE WINNERS

Grayling Youth Booster Club
Week ending March 30 - \$25
each: Kary Moshier, Steve Miller, Jody Coors, Vivian Stanton.

Grayling Lions Lucky 13
Winner of \$100 for Week 8 (March 28) is Andrew Ferrigan of Grayling.

Buddy Day is April 7

► Event kicks off 2003 Organ and Tissue Donor Awareness Month

Michigan Secretary of State Buddy Day will be celebrated Monday, April 7, to kick off April as Organ and Tissue Donor Awareness Month.

"Although we don't like to think about it, organ donation can affect us or a loved one at any given time, on any given day," said Secretary of State Terri Lynn Land. "Each person who adds his or her name to the Gift of Life Organ and Tissue Registry brings hope to almost 2,400 Michigan men, women and children waiting for a life-saving transplant. Even tissue transplants are vital for survival.

"Imagine what a cornea transplant means to someone who cannot see or how skin grafts can positively impact the life of someone who has been severely burned.

"I encourage you to join the thousands who have given hope or saved the life of another. Please give so others can live," Secretary Land said.

This year, nearly 100 branch offices will host Gift of Life "Buddies." Buddies are volunteers dedicated to promoting greater awareness of the need for organ, tissue, and eye donation. This year's Buddies have either

received a transplant, are waiting for one, or are a family member or friend of a recipient or donor.

Buddies will be in branch offices from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on April 7 to help distribute organ donor information including donor registry brochures, pencils, and other educational materials.

Branch offices without Buddies will have organ donor information on display.

For more than a decade, the Secretary of State's Office has partnered with the Gift of Life to present Buddy Day. Residents who will not be at a branch office on Buddy Day still have plenty of opportunities to enroll on the Michigan Organ and Tissue Donor Registry.

The Secretary of State web site provides residents with the opportunity to register online at www.michigan.gov.sos. Additionally, enrollment cards are available at any branch office and are mailed with every driver's license and state identification card.

The Gift of Life Agency is Michigan's only certified, full-service organ recovery organization. The agency acts as an intermediary to provide educational resources about donation for donors, recipients, physicians, and hospital staff.

For more information about organ donation, contact the Gift of Life Agency at 1-800-482-4881.

Agency on Aging plans two public hearings

The Region IX Area Agency on Aging will conduct two public hearings on its proposed Multi-Year Area Plan for Fiscal Years 2004-2006.

The plan will address distribution of funds and provisions of services under the Older Americans Act, for the counties of Alcona, Alpena, Arenac, Cheboygan, Crawford, Iosco, Montmorency, Ogemaw, Oscoda, Otsego, Presque Isle, and Roscommon.

A copy of the summary plan

will be available by contacting the NEMCSA-Region 9 AAA, 2375 Gordon Road, Alpena, MI 49707, or call (989) 356-3474.

The public hearings are scheduled as follows:

- Monday, April 14 at 10 a.m., at the Northeast Michigan Community Service Agency, Inc. in Alpena.
- Tuesday, April 15 at 10 a.m. at the Otsego County Commission on Aging, 120 Grandview Avenue in Gaylord.

Farm Park now accepting reservations for groups

Now that the possibility of warmer weather seems a bit more like reality, Wellington Farm Park, near Grayling and Higgins Lake, is taking reservations for group activities.

Last season, the 60-acre living history park played host to two weddings, two family reunions, several company picnics and a host of children's groups, including birthday parties and organization-sponsored youth activities.

Anyone interested in learning more about a group visit to Wellington Farm Park is encouraged to call, toll-free, 1-888-653-3276 or visit the web site at www.wellingtonfarmpark.org.

MSU-E offers free forestry classes

MSU Extension is offering the following Sustainable Forestry Education training programs for logging contractors, foresters, and landowners on Wednesday, April 9:

- Threatened & Endangered Species - from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.
- Visual Management - from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Both classes meet in the basement of the Crawford County Courthouse, 200 West Michigan Avenue in Grayling.

There is no charge to attend the programs and there must be a minimum of five enrolled in the classes or the program will be cancelled.

To register, call the MSU-E Crawford County office at (989) 344-3263 or (989) 3281; or register on-line at www.msue.edu/crawford/sfe.htm. Register by noon on April 8.

Do you have asthma, or do you know someone who does? The Grayling Asthma Project can answer your questions and give you free information on asthma. Call us at (989) 348-0779.

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Sun. 9 am to 2 pm

Due to physical size, merchandising policies and manufacturer's shortages, some stores may be unable to stock all items shown. However, most items can be ordered by your Ace dealer and a "Rein Check" can be issued assuring you of the sale price featured. Not responsible for printing errors.

The Bible Speaks

Balanced Truth

About 35 years ago I took a college course entitled "Contemporary World Issues." The course consisted of reading various magazines and publications from all over the world and turning in a paper on each one. Our final grade resulted from our ability to rate the philosophy of each writer on a graduated scale from extreme left, to balanced, to extreme right. We were taught that the extreme left led to communist tyranny, and the extreme right led to fascist tyranny. The scale formed a circle with tyranny at the top and the balanced truth or freedom at the bottom with degrees of left and right between. Therefore, one primary objective of the class was to enable us to identify the philosophy of each writer.

I soon discovered that the key to getting a good grade in any college course was not the intelligence of the student, but rather understanding the mind of the professor. What I have since discovered over the years is the fallacy of their entire system. For example, that which was considered balanced truth a few years ago is today called extreme. I remember growing up in a home, church, and community identified politically as Democrat. I grew up as a political liberal. Our daily newspaper was even called the Gibson County Democrat. But today, many of the moral values we all held then are now considered so conservative they are being branded extreme right wing. It is as if the only place of balance in the whole

world is that position which keeps moving slowly but deliberately toward Globalism and Marxism. We are becoming like the proverbial frog placed in a pan of cold water with the fire turn on beneath us. We sense what is happening but are too entranced and ignorant to seek deliverance.

We have been deliberately programmed to think within our pan or box. Yet, many of us have discovered and still believe the real world of balanced truth is centered in God and His revealed truth in the Bible. The Bible is the only anchor that assures us that our thinking is in balance with the universe God created. Our concept of freedom comes from God. That is why a portion of Leviticus 25:10, "Proclaim liberty throughout all the land" is inscribed on our Liberty Bell. That is why we are "One Nation under God." That is why our motto is, "In God We Trust." That is why we all sing, "God Bless America."

Balanced truth does not come from the polls as most of us were programmed to believe. Balanced truth does not come from world opinion, Hollywood, etc. Balanced truth comes from knowing the creator of the universe and the revelation of truth He has given us in the Bible. Jesus Christ prayed to the Father for His disciples in John 17:17: "Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth." To have balanced truth we must start our thinking with God and His truth.

As we come in contact with various claims of truth around us in the world, we must weigh these claims in the balances of God's revealed truth. We must then accept those things that are consistent with God's truth, and reject those things that are in conflict or contrast to God's truth. All truth is consistent, balanced, and beneficial for our blessings of freedom. God tells us in 1 Thess 5:21: "Prove all things; hold fast that which is good." As we grow in grace and knowledge, we develop a balanced world and life view. Faith in God's Word gives us balance. Pastor B

Please pray for God's blessings upon the ministry of this column and our church Website at <http://www.i2k.net/cba>. We at Calvary Baptist Church invite you to learn more from the Bible about Jesus Christ. Join us in a verse by verse study of the gospel of John each Sunday.

The Bible Speaks is a paid advertisement and does not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of the Crawford County Avalanche.

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Send name, address, and age to
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6504 West M-72, Grayling, MI 49738
Call (989) 348-8356 or 348-9220

Visit Dead Sea Scrolls exhibit

Travel to Grand Rapids with the Michelson Singers to see the Dead Sea Scrolls, an exhibition of Biblical proportions.

The day trip, scheduled for Tuesday, April 29, includes deluxe motorcoach transportation from Grayling to Grand Rapids, admission to the Van Andel Museum Center and Dead Sea Scrolls exhibit, admission to Meijer Gardens and the Chihuly Exhibit, as well as dinner at the Cadillac Grill. Cost is \$70 per person.

Seats are limited, so early registration is encouraged.

All proceeds from the tour will help defray the expenses of the Michelson Singers when they travel to Vermont in June to represent their church and their community at an international choral festival to be held at the Von Trapp estate.

For more information, itinerary, or to register, call 348-2974 or 1-888-653-3276; or register at Michelson Memorial United Methodist Church on Michigan Avenue in Grayling.

SENIOR CITIZEN NEWS

by Nova Anderson

Join us for a meal, either at noon or 5 pm weekdays except Friday, there is no evening meal. Please try to call for reservations at (989) 348-7123 or 1-888-355-4500, so that we know how many to plan for. The Center is located at 308 Lawndale, behind Burger King. Walk-ins are welcome.

April:

2 - Baked Chicken/Brown Steak; Hearing Clinic by appointment; Bible Study at 10:30; Stag Cards at 12 noon.
3 - BBQ Beef/Pork Chops; Blood Pressure/Blood Sugars at

11 a.m.; Crafts at 1 p.m.; Attack UNO at 5:30 p.m.

4 - Spanish Rice/No Dinner; Pantry Bingo at 1 p.m.; 80 Cent Rummy at 1 p.m.

8 - Sweet & Sour Meatballs/Chicken Kiev; Speaker Rosalind at 12 noon; Euchre Club at 1 p.m.; Housing Board meets at 6:30 p.m.
9 - Mac & Cheese/Swiss Steak; Commodities at St. Mary's; Exercise and Line Dancing at 10:00 a.m.; Bible Study at 10:30 a.m.; Birthday Dinner at 5:00 p.m.; White Elephant Auction at 5:30 p.m.

Up coming events: Sunday, April 6, Sunday Brunch 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. - Waffles, Ham, Eggs and Fruit Bar.

Celebrate 30 years with us on April 10.

Card of Thanks

I would like to thank the Grayling Community for the recent outpouring of concern, love, and support for both myself and my family during my recent illness.

I am proud to have been and thankful to continue to be a member of this wonderful community.

Paul G. Pahssen

HOMETOWN NEWS

Sometime on Saturday afternoon, March 29, Russ Stevens and Lou Knack sat down to play some cribbage at Stevens Family Circle. They wound up playing four games and Lou just barely saved getting skunked in the second game. However, Stevens did end up skunking Lou in games one, three and four. (Darwin's going to love this.) Knack threw the deck of cards away.

This Church Directory is sponsored by the following community-minded individuals and businesses

Forget the past...How often we hear this advice. Why think about it time and time again? What a waste of time and energy! Yet, the accomplishment of this act of forgetting is sometimes difficult, especially when it is ourselves we must forgive. The Bible gives advice on this situation in Philippians 3:12-14 when Paul writes... "Not that I am perfect; but one thing I do, forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal..."

Use your resources toward positive goals for the future. If the apostle Paul could be optimistic about the future in prison, you can believe that God wants the best for you. Make a decision to worship this Sabbath. Talk to God. Tell Him you need forgiveness for the wrongs in your life. In Psalm 32, David confessed, "When I declared not my sin, my body wasted away through my groaning all day long...I acknowledged my sin to Thee, then thou didst forgive the guilt of my sin...Thou dost encompass me with deliverance." God will forgive your sin. You can forget it.

Forgiven and Forgotten

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Ephesians 1:1-14	Ephesians 1:15-23	Psalm 33	Psalm 34	Psalm 62	Psalm 65	Psalm 71

Scriptures Selected by The American Bible Society
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Christian Science Society
209 First St. - Suite 103 - Gaylord
(989) 732-7001
Sunday Service.....10:30 am
April through October
2nd & 4th Wednesday.....7 pm
Sunday School.....10:30 am

Michelson Memorial United Methodist Church
Pastor Jeffrey Jagers
400 Michigan Ave. • 348-2974
Website: www.mm-umc.org
Barrier Free

Sunday Worship.....8:30 & 11 am
Sunday School.....Sept. - May

Adult Sunday School.....9:45 a.m.
Children's Sunday School....11am
(Childcare Available during 11:00 service)

Bible Study (Wed).....10:30am

Seventh Day Adventist
Pastor Jeff Arthur
Phone 989-275-1061

Services held Saturday at
Camp AuSable off M-72 East
(1st building on right inside camp entrance)

Church Service.....9:30 am
Saturday.....9:30 am

Sabbath School.....10:30 am
Saturday.....10:30 am

Prayer Meeting.....7 pm

Lovells Chapel
Pastor Rev. Gary Hopp

Sunday School.....10 am
Chapel Service.....11 am

Wednesday.....7 pm

Prayer Meeting.....7-8 pm

The Church of Christ
with the Elijah Message

Pastor Paul Rolfe
7662 Kelly Ave., Frederic

Sunday

Worship.....10 am & 7 pm

Wed. Prayer Service.....7 pm

Free Methodist

Joseph Carpenter - Pastor

Daniel Baldermann-Associate Pastor

6652 (M-72 W) • 348-9093

or 348-5362

Early Service.....8:30 am

Sunday School.....10 am

Morning Service.....11 am

Priesthood.....12 noon

Relief Society.....12 noon

Prayer Meeting (Wednesday) 7 pm

Emma Lowery United Church Of Christ

3474 West Park Road, Lutzene

Sunday Worship.....11 am

Adult and Youth

Sunday School.....9:30 am

Heritage Baptist

Pastor Ernie Wagner 348-1411

1841 Hartwick Pines Rd.

1/4 mile west of I-75

Sunday School.....9:45 am

Morning Worship.....11 am

Evening Worship.....6 pm

Wednesday7 pm

Grayling Assembly of God

Rev. Ron Voelker, Pastor

701 S. I-75 Business Loop

Church 348-8885

Parsonage 348-2588

Sunday School.....9:30 am

Morning Worship.....10:30 am

Evening Service.....6 pm

Wednesday7 pm

Community of Christ

Pastor Carol Stephan

North Down River Rd. at

1030 Glenn Rd. • P.O. Box 1188

Church School9:45 am

Preaching11 am

Midweek Service Prayer7 pm

GMS names Students of the Month for March



Grayling Middle School Students of the Month are, from left: (front row) Elizabeth Dandy, Jacob Apps, Dorothy Zarnick, Joelissa Kolka, Paul Brown, Vilai Thao, Mike Smith, Cassie Pizzi, Jessica Ramsey, Hilary Warsko; (second row) Dylan Nye, Nick Steffey, Stevie Stromski, Danielle Williams, Abby Sheeler, Jordan Renaud, Reid Holzbauer, Ashley McMann; (back row) Josh Bofysil, Dale Mayhew, Matt Letts, Andy Yost, Nikki Dedafoe; not pictured - Peter Alexander, Joe Emmons, Jordan Klemish, Alexis Myers, Ray Roberts.

THE POWER SPOT

News from Grayling Elementary & AuSable Primary Schools

The February Safety Patrol Student of the month was Michael Hunter.

The second grade and 2/3 multi-age classes in the AuSable Primary participated in a natural history program from Mackinac State Historic Parks outreach program. The presentation was titled Water, Woods, and Wildlife. It focused on the wildlife of Michigan and their habitats. The presenter incorporated food chains and webs in the program as well as hands-on experiences with the skulls and furs of various animals. He also included information on the watershed of the Great Lakes. The students found the presentation entertaining and it reviewed many concepts learned in the science unit.

Mrs. Lisa Northrop is rewarding her third grade students with a pizza party for all students who have mastered their 0-5 multiplication facts.

Reading is like basketball. The only way you make baskets is to practice. The only way to become a good reader is to practice your reading. Miss P. Williams challenged her first graders to read a total of 100 books for the month of March.

Grayling Elementary celebrated National Reading Month with

a calendar of activities. Reading month activities included community "Mystery Readers" each week and D.E.A.R. (Drop Everything And Read) at a different time each day. On March 5 the students and staff attended a Reading Month Kick-Off assembly organized and hosted by Title I teachers Mary Smock and Kay Avery-Lee. Three students were chosen to read an essay about their favorite book at the assembly. Third grader Josie Swander shared the following review.

My favorite book is called *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*. I like that book because the illustrations are beautiful and the title page has little colorful circles all over it. When the book starts, the caterpillar is an egg. At the end of the book he eventually turns into a butterfly. It inspires me to know more about all of the creatures in this world.

The fourth grader, Nathaniel Robert Heichel reviewed an *American Chillers* book.

Have you ever read an *American Chillers* book before? My favorite book is the *American Chillers*, *The Michigan Mega-Monsters*. This book is about Michigan Mega-Monsters. Also it is about three good friends named Leah, Sandy and Rick. They are ready for a

fun and exciting week. It is also about camping, swimming, canoeing and having fun. Later on in the book Leah, Rick and Sandy find out that the legend of the Michigan Mega-Monsters is not real at all. My dad and I think everyone should read this book because it is really good and it has a good plot.

Fifth-grader Carl Gaff provided the last book review.

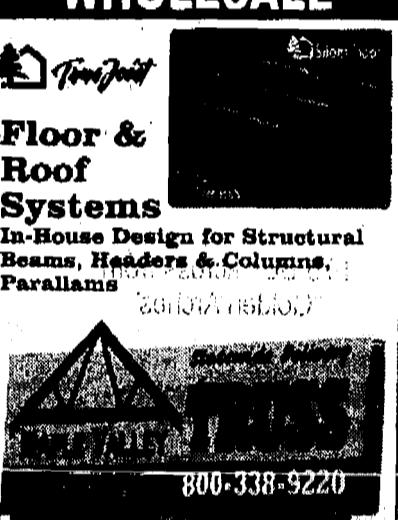
Do you know what? The book *Sideways Stories from Wayside School*, written by Louis Sachar, is a great story for kids who simply love funny books. I say that because *Wayside School* is a very funny book. Every chapter is about a student in Mrs. Jewel's class. I like reading each chapter because you never know what to expect.

I laughed a lot reading this book, and I know you would too. *Wayside School* would be a good book to make connections with. Some people like me don't use much common sense either. I decided to read this book because my sister told me to. So, when I started to read it, my imagination jumped right into gear. I imagined what a 30-story school would look like, I also imagined what a person with three ears would look like.

When I was done with the

book, I found something out even cooler. Louis Sachar wrote two more books about *Wayside School*. I knew I really wanted to read them, and after reading this, I know you will want to also. So go ahead and dive into books with *Wayside School*.

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First Legislative Sportmen's caucus held

The Michigan Legislative Sportmen's Caucus held its first meeting on March 13 and discussed ways to protect Michigan's outdoor heritage.

A bi-partisan organization to protect the rights of hunters, anglers and trappers, the sportsmen's caucus has 87 members in the Michigan House and Senate, which makes it one of the largest bi-partisan caucuses in the legislature.

Sportsmen in Michigan spend more than \$2.06 billion annually, creating \$133 million in state tax revenue. Sportsmen sustain 33,000 jobs for Michigan residents.

The organization is patterned after the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus, which is the largest caucus on Capitol Hill.

"Outdoor recreation, whether it be hunting, fishing, or trapping, is a vital part of the economy."

my and everyday life for northern Michigan," said 36th District Senator Tony Stamas (R-Midland). "I am happy this caucus has been formed to actively promote these issues. I look forward to working with my colleagues to ensure that the sporting community's rights are protected."

"The sporting community in Michigan should be excited about the establishment of the Michigan Legislative Sportmen's Caucus," said Brad

Rowse, state caucus coordinator of the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation. "With a strengthened voice created by the establishment of a sportsmen's caucus, over 1.7 million sportsmen and women throughout Michigan will now have a channel to proactively address their issues in the legislature."

The caucus meetings will take place on a monthly basis and features speakers from various Michigan conservation and outdoor recreation organizations.

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Working in a sitting position for long periods of time can cause postural stress. This problem is compounded unless your chair is designed to give you support where it's needed, and unless you sit with the proper posture.

No one likes to go through life with nagging back pains. After a full day's work you want to be able to come home and relax comfortably with family and friends. And when you get up in the morning, you want to be able to feel refreshed and up to the chal-

lenges of another day's work.

If you have a posture problem, if your spinal column is out of alignment and causing painful pressure on nerve centers, you may be able to benefit from treatment that brings welcome relief from pain and other discomfort.

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National Guard wrestles with budget cuts, war

by Luke Pickelman
Capital News Service

said. "And federal funding is limited."

LANSING -- War in Iraq and a budget shortfall have made times tough for Michigan's National Guard.

The Department of Military and Veterans Affairs receives 40 percent of its funding from the state and the other 60 percent from Washington. The department budget for 2003 is about \$103 million.

In the midst of the state's budget crisis, the department is looking for other sources of revenue, said Joel Wortley, its chief financial officer. "We are losing a portion of our state funding," he

said. "For example, the department's Challenge Program, which is an 18-month military-style program for high school dropouts, will lose more than \$1 million, said Wortley. The state works with the federal government to jointly fund the program.

Other than the \$1 million lost for the Challenge Program, Wortley said he is unsure how much more the department may lose from state funding.

"If we wanted more federal money, we'd have to match that," he said. "And we can't."

Wortley said that the depart-

ment is looking for possible donations from the Kellogg and Mott foundations to replace money cut from the state budget.

"Pretty much anywhere we can get money," he said.

The state has no plans to close or consolidate any of its 50 armories, including one in Manistee. Armories house a military unit's arms, equipment and administration, as well as serving as training facilities. They are funded entirely by the state.

The duties of members of the Army National Guard and the Air National Guard are not much different from those of military reservists in Michigan, said

Capt. Dawn Dancer, public affairs officer for the department.

"Really they're the same," she said. "But the National Guard has a dual mission: The governor can call us to state duty and the president can call us to federal duty."

Michigan's National Guard has 1,500 members deployed in support of both Operation Noble Eagle and Operation Enduring Freedom. Noble Eagle constitutes stateside security, and Enduring Freedom is overseas. Three hundred members are in Iraq now, with 500 more waiting for their orders, Dancer said.

"We're still beefing up the security here at home," she said. "The 500 waiting haven't gotten the final orders, but are ready to go."

The reserves aren't affected by the state budget crisis because they are fully federally funded, said Lt. Col. Brenda Jenkins, a public affairs officer for the Army Reserves based in Minneapolis, headquarters for Michigan's reserve region.

"We don't receive state funding," she said. "But we do put money back into the state's economy through civilian and personnel payroll, contracts for facilities, services for the facilities and supplies from local vendors."

In 2002, the U.S. Army Reserves spent more than \$58 million in Michigan, Jenkins said.

In Michigan, the Army Guard has 8,600 members and the Air Guard has 2,700. The conflict in Iraq and the deployment of troops have many on edge, Dancer said. "A lot of people are anxious right now."

In addition to the 50 armories, the National Guard has three air bases and two Army training facilities, one in Grayling and the other at Fort Custer, west of Battle Creek. The air bases are located in Battle Creek, Mount Clemens, and near Detroit.

At a time of frequent terror alerts, the National Guard has become extremely important, aiding at border crossings and airports, said Col. Mike McDaniel, Gov. Jennifer Granholm's adviser for homeland security.

"Homeland security used to be a subset of a subset before this," he said. "It's fairly safe to say another terror attack will happen. We need to assure the public we are doing our job."

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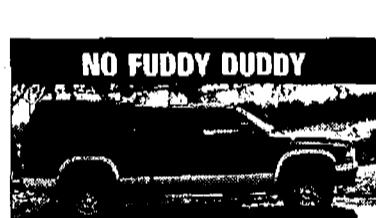
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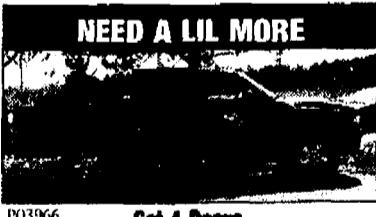
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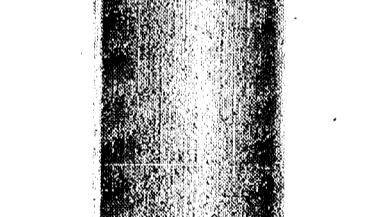
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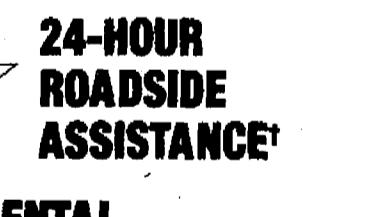
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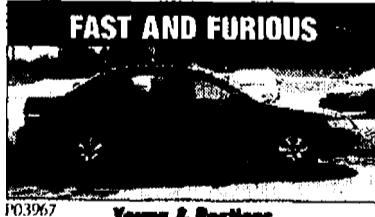
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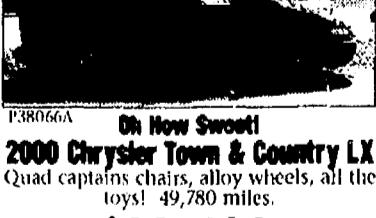
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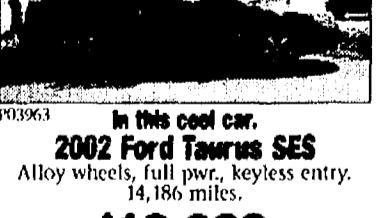
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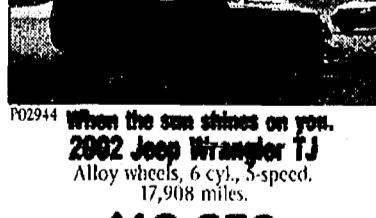
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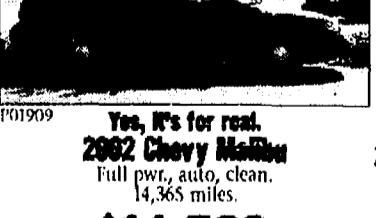
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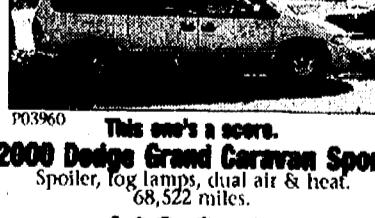
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Local businesses expect little change this tourist season

by Corbin Sullivan
Capital News Service

LANSING -- Tourists might not be traveling far this summer, but Grayling area businesses aren't worried.

The ongoing economic crisis in Michigan, combined with high gas prices and the Iraq war, may keep tourists closer to home, said David Lorenz, the managing director of Travel Michigan. So, he said, the state is trying to promote short-distance travel as a way to boost local economies.

"One of the ways to help the economy is to encourage travel within the state," Lorenz said. "We reach for the low-hanging fruit first to be more efficient."

Tourism is the Grayling area's lifeblood, especially summer tourism, so anything to keep visitors coming despite nationwide financial strife is welcome, said Kathy Thomas, the office coordi-

nator for the Grayling Chamber of Commerce.

"We depend on tourism quite a bit," Thomas said adding that it's hard for people who grow up in Grayling to find work unless they work in the tourism industry.

Thomas said there has been a steady gain in tourism in the past few years, and predicted that this summer won't be a letdown. The Chamber of Commerce will rely on repeat visitors and the state's campaign for in-state tourism to keep the local businesses happy.

"I think we might see a little effect, but we always have people that want to be here for our events, and they will return," Thomas said.

The AuSable River Festival at the end of July is the largest summer event in Grayling, attracting up to 30,000 out of the 50,000 people who are expected over the entire summer. Local businesses

depend on the festivities for a sizeable profit.

Penrod's AuSable Paddlesports Canoes & Kayaks is one of four canoe liveries that sit on the AuSable in a line, waiting each summer for tourist dollars to roll in. It hosts the time trials for the river festival's canoe marathon, a grueling 120-mile overnight race.

The owner, Jim Humes, said the phones already are ringing for cabin, canoe and kayak reservations for the entire summer.

"Since January the phone calls have been increasing by the day as it gets warmer," Humes said.

He welcomes a shift to more local tourists, as long as they keep on coming.

"When gas prices go up, people tend to stay more local," Humes said. "Instead of going west, they stay more in a three-hour radius, and that's great for me."

Hartwick Pines State Park is another tourist destination in the

Grayling area that will have to depend on in-state tourists. Craig Kasmer, a park interpreter, isn't as optimistic about the number of visitors as the business owners in Grayling.

"The trend in the recent past has actually been going down, especially since 9/11," Kasmer said. "With the economy the way it is, we hope tourism doesn't dip down too much."

Kasmer did note an increase in Northern Michigan resident tourists in the past year, and said it's not only a smart move for them, but also a benefit to the park.

He said, "Michigan's parks, lakes and rivers make cheap, easy vacations."

"Instead of taking a vacation to Florida, I would think more people would stay in the confines of Michigan, and we encourage that."

He said, "Michigan's parks, lakes and rivers make cheap, easy vacations."



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Fly shop history featured in northern publication

by Cheryll Ruley
Staff Writer

Great Lakes Energy's magazine, *Country Lines*, recently featured the history of the Fly Factory in Grayling -- the oldest operating fly shop in northern Michigan.

The article gives a detailed history of the business on the banks of the AuSable River from its early days in 1876 through the early 1900s, when Chief David Shoppenagon served as a hunting and fishing guide for lumber buyers and visitors to Grayling, to its later addition of canoe rentals in the mid 1930s under the ownership of "Sailor Bill" Huddleston, to 1945 when the business was purchased by Ray Snider and became Ray's Canoe Livery and Fly Factory.

By 1949, the Fly Factory was known to anglers as far away as

England and California. Snider's ownership was followed by that of Al and Cappy Westervelt, and in 1979, the Southard family took ownership when the Westervelts retired and continue to run the business to this day.

The article also discusses operator Steve Southard's concern for keeping the AuSable River preserved for future generations and the livery serving as the starting point of the annual Weyerhaeuser AuSable River Canoe Marathon, as well as the site of the annual Trout Bum BarBQ -- a major fund-raiser for Trout Unlimited.

"This river has been good to all who operated this business. It's our obligation to be good to the river," said Southard in the article published in the March 2003 edition of *Country Lines*.

RSVP holds first advisory group meeting

NEMCSA's Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) of Crawford and Roscommon Counties held its first community advisory group meeting recently at the AuSable River Center's RSVP office in Roscommon.

Participants represented RSVP volunteers, sites and staff. The group's representatives are from the health community, education, environmental and emergency management sectors of

both counties.

An overview of NEMCSA's programs was presented and the role of a community advisory group, the changing role of volunteers, and the needs and common challenges faced today in communities were discussed.

RSVP provides meaningful volunteer opportunities within their communities to anyone over 55 years of age. For more information on RSVP, contact Carol at (989) 275-1717.

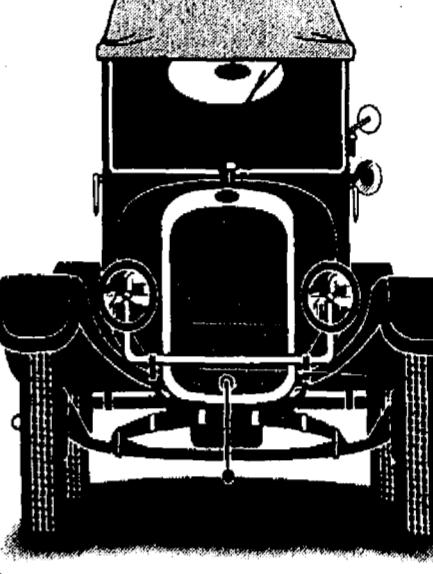
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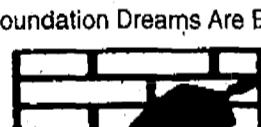
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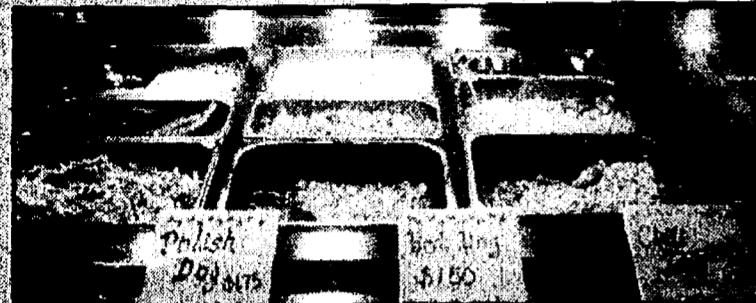

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Forum geared to bring employers, local resources together for dialogue

A consortium of state, regional and local economic development organizations are hosting a day-long forum on workplace issues faced by our region's employers.

The forum, titled "Investing in the Future through Your Employees: Best Practices and Opportunities," will feature speakers and panels covering the legal aspect of hiring, discipline and discharge, recruiting, hiring and retaining employees, and workplace safety.

The forum will be held on Friday, May 2, from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the M-TEC at Kirtland-Gaylord.

Laura Budreau, Program Director of Michigan Works!, said the idea for the forum resulted from the need of local employers to know what resources are available to them.

"This forum will provide employers not only with a legal perspective on employee issues, but also new skills and techniques to identify dedicated and dependable employees during the hiring process," Budreau said. "We also want people to know and be aware of resources in our community and utilize those resources to help them be more successful."

The morning session on May 2, titled "Ask the Lawyers," will feature a presentation on hiring practices and discipline policies followed by a Question and Answer period, allowing participants to ask questions about the legalities of these issues as they pertain to their own businesses.

In the afternoon, participants will have a choice between two panel discussions: "Placement

and Retention Issues" or "Workplace Safety Issues."

This program is sponsored by Michigan Works!, Otsego County Economic Alliance, Michigan Department of Career Development — Michigan Rehabilitation Services, M-TEC at Kirtland-Gaylord and 1st National Bank of Gaylord.

In addition to the speakers and presentations, a resource expo will give employers a chance to view available resources and network with other business professionals.

Continental breakfast and lunch will be included in the \$20 registration fee. Registration deadline is April 15 and space is limited.

For more information, call Luann at (989) 705-3605 or e-mail to: wessels@kirtland.edu.

Realtors receive top company awards

Realtors of RE/MAX of Grayling were recently honored by the RE/MAX Real Estate System for outstanding sales and service in 2002.

They received their awards at the RE/MAX of Michigan Annual Regional Conference held February 6-8 in Traverse City.

Craig Hinkle was awarded the dignified Platinum Club Award. In 2002, 65 Associates in the RE/MAX of Michigan Region achieved this status, representing the top six percent of the Region.

Gary Boyd and Tom Slavens were honored with the esteemed 100% Club Award. This award is based on sales production for the year. In 2002, only the top 26 percent of Associates affiliated with the Region qualified for the 100% Club Award.

Charlene Scheer was awarded Executive Club honors. In 2002, 11 percent of all Sales Associates affiliated with the Region qualified for this club level.

Fred Fisher was awarded President's Club honors. In 2002, 15 percent of all Sales Associates in the Region qualified for the President's Club.

"The number of award winners from this office is a testament to the hard work of everyone on the RE/MAX of Grayling team," said Michel Metzner, Regional Director of RE/MAX of Michigan. "RE/MAX of Grayling is a large part of the success that the RE/MAX real estate network enjoys in Michigan."

Local unemployment continues to climb

by Susan Warrington
 Staff Writer

Residents of Crawford County are aware of the tough economic times the nation and this area are experiencing. This area has not yet turned the corner evident in the unemployment statistics available from the Michigan Department of Career Development.

As of January 2001, the unemployment rate in the county was 7.3 percent of a labor force of

5,550. By January 2002, the unemployment rate had moved up to 9 percent of a labor force of 5,575.

Now with a labor force of 5,600, Crawford County is experiencing an unemployment rate of 9.9 percent.

The unemployment rate in the county usually declines during the summer months when tourism creates more jobs for county residents. However, the summer of 2002 saw an unem-

ployment rate one to two percentage points higher than the summer of 2001.

Over the last two years, the unemployment rate has been highest in Lovells Township, followed by Maple Forest Township and Frederic Township. Lovells and Frederic Townships have seen the greatest jumps in unemployment in that time also.

As of January 2003, the latest period for which statistics are available, only the relatively low unemployment rates in Grayling and South Branch Townships keep the unemployment rate in the county from being around 13 percent.

With the economic problems faced by both the state and federal governments, the only hope for a decrease in unemployment comes from private industry and tourism.

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Kenquest receives \$6k GLE grant

by Cheryll Ruley
Staff Writer

The Kenquest House, in Grayling, was a recent recipient of a grant from the People Fund of Great Lakes Energy.

In an article published in the January 2003 issue of the electric co-op's magazine, *Country Lines*, it was announced the home for at-risk girls received a \$6,000 grant to help purchase baby food, clothing and supplies for its residential treatment program for pregnant teenagers and teenage mothers and their infants.

"The Kenquest House provides a safe, temporary home for at-risk teenage girls where they receive the humanitarian and educational services they will need to better prepare them for their roles as parents and future adults," Program Manager Pamela Fisher explained in the article.

According to the article, the Kenquest House has, since 1984, helped 142 girls, ages 13-17, and 132 babies, most from northern Michigan.

The non-profit organization is highly dependent on donations of funds and items for babies and toddlers, making the recent grant a very important contribution. Public funds cover the day-to-day expenses for housing, training, and caring for its residents, but no public dollars are available for caring for the babies and toddlers.

A long-term survey conducted in 1992 questioned 25 former clients, selected at random, who had completed the Kenquest House program within the first eight years showed 98 percent of past residents completed their high school education or GED equivalent.

According to the article, the 1992 survey found all were currently employed or enrolled in college courses and 65 percent claimed they were self-supportive and receiving no state assistance.

Daylight Savings Time arrives April 6 at 2 a.m.

Grant brings youth author north

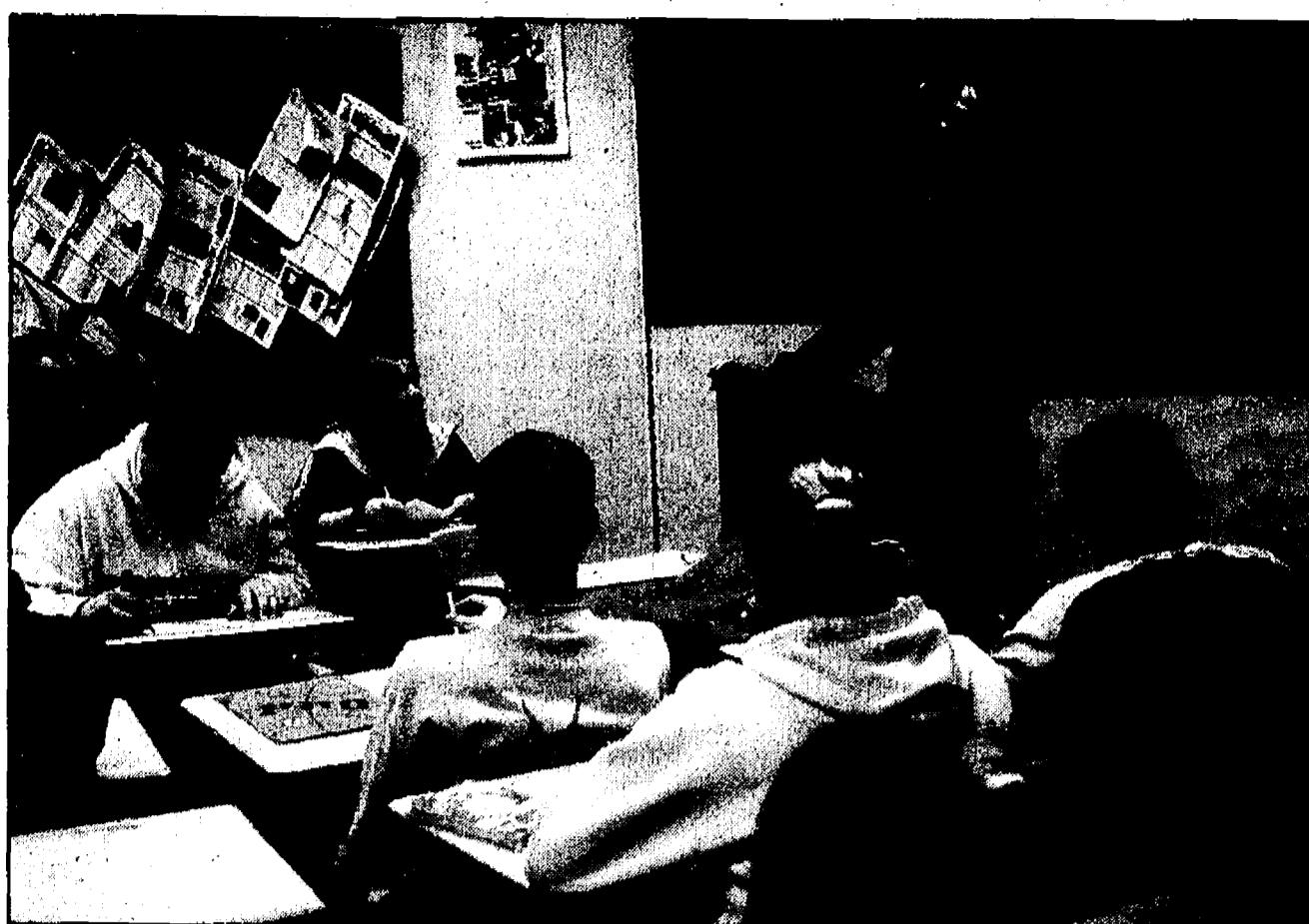


Photo courtesy of Kirtland Community College

Chris Crutcher, renowned author of best-selling books for young adults, answers questions in a classroom of writing students at Houghton Lake High in the teacher Chris Sura's classroom. The celebrated writer recently offered a two-day series of young adult programs that included readings, book signings, a luncheon with educators and librarians and meetings with students at Houghton Lake High, Gerrish-Higgins High, Houghton Lake Alternative, the Nokomis Challenge Center, 2nd Chance Academy and Gerrish-Higgins Alternative Ed. His visit to the area, arranged by the Houghton Lake Public Library, was made possible through Kirtland Community College and a grant from the Kirtland Community College Foundation.

Quarterly wage reports can be filed on-line

LANSING — Michigan has made it faster and easier for employers in the state to file a quarterly wage report required by the state's unemployment program. Employers now have the option of filing their quarterly wage reports through the Internet.

Employers should find the web-based process will also benefit employees by getting their wage information posted into the state's database the day after its submission, and ultimately lead to faster benefit payments.

Every quarter, Michigan employers are required to report the name, Social Security number and wages paid to each of their employees.

Smaller employers mail the information on paper forms called a "Wage Detail Report" (form UC 1017), while many larger employers submit their data on magnetic tape.

Both methods are time consuming for employers and costly to the state. The Bureau of Workers' and Unemployment Compensation (BW&UC) preprints and mails paper versions of the Wage Detail Report every quarter, and then manually data enters the submitted information into its wage record database.

With the new process, the

bureau developed three web applications for employers to use. All are on a bureau website at: <http://b2g.unemployment.state.mi.us>.

BW&UC officials report the 1017e application has been so easy to use that most employers who have tested the site have successfully filed their wage reports without requiring any help.

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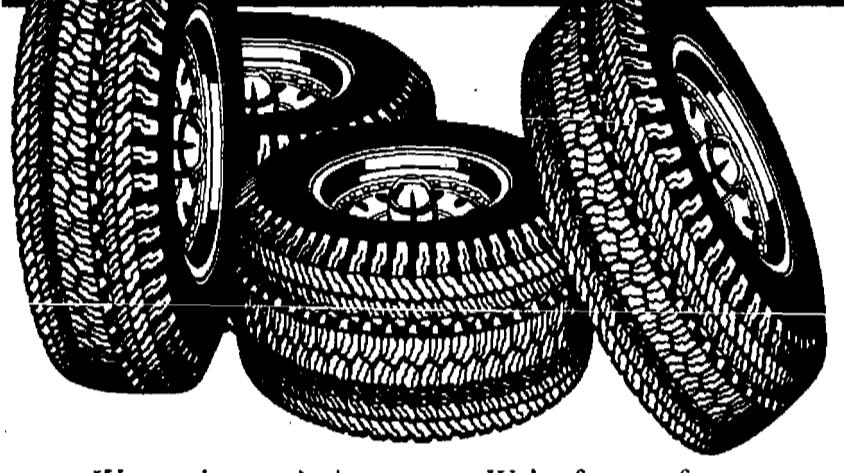
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SHERIFF'S REPORT

Crawford County Sheriff Kirk Wakefield reports his office handled the following 87 complaints the week of March 24-30:

One EMS response, seven traffic accidents, two non-traffic accidents, two traffic policing, one accident - fire, one motor vehicle inspection, five other inspections - liquor, five civil matter disputes - family trouble, six suspicious situations, 11 general non-criminal, three false alarm activation, two assault and battery/simple assault, one aggravated assault - nonfamily - other weapon, two burglary/home invasion, one burglary - entry without force - residential,

one burglary - entering without permission, four larceny, one larceny from building, larceny from yards, one motor vehicle theft, four damage to property, one damage to private property, one damage to property - other, one family offense/abuse/neglect, one resisting officer, 12 public peace/disorderly, one hit and run motor vehicle accident, one health and safety, one invasion of privacy/wiretap, four miscellaneous arrests, one driving violations/DWLS etc., One driving on revoked/suspended/reduced license.

For more information, log on to: www.crawfordsheriff.org.

RANGE FIRING

Range firing scheduled during April 2 - 8, is as follows:

The Range 40 Air to Ground Complex, located north of County Rd. 612, east of Guthrie Lake, south of Old State Rd. 618, and west of County Rd. F97 (Twin Bridge Rd.) will be conducting live and inert bombing operations by the Air National Guard during the following dates: April 1 - 4, April 8.

The Range 40 Complex, located North of County Rd. 612, East of Sherman Road, South of Old State Road 618, and West of County Road F97 (Twin Bridge Rd.). Small arms firing conducted on April 5, 2003.

Small arms ranges located West of Lake Margrethe, North of Howe Road, East of the gas pipeline and South of Portage Creek on April 5 - 7.

Range 15, located South of the main post, bounded on the West by Cadillac Road and on the East by Carrier Road on April 6.

Heavy weapons range firing is scheduled from sunrise until three hours after sunset. Occasionally, the Post Commander without additional notice to the public may authorize mission-firing requirements beyond this time. This firing schedule is subject to change without notice to the public.

Contact the Grayling Department of Natural Resources for the areas closed for hunting within the boundaries of the installation. Grayling DNR telephone number: 989-348-6371.

For further information call 1-800-628-5820.

GRAYLING POLICE REPORT

Grayling City Police Chief Karl Schreiner reports his department handled the following 51 complaints during the period from March 23 - 30:

Five civil, one larceny, one assist other departments, one misdemeanor arrest, two alarms, four suspicious situations, three disturbing the peace, four property damage, one domestic, one assault, one personal protection order violation, 14 unclassified, four juvenile, four private property accidents, one motorist assist, and four traffic warnings issued.

In Memory of

Lorrie Ann Decker-Miller

June 18, 1963-April 5, 1993

God quietly whispered your name,

And then you were gone,

Leaving the rest of us praying

For just one more word...

One more hug...

One more "I love you."

Sharing your life was a gift from God

That has been replaced

With the gift of your memory.

So even though your human arms

Can no longer embrace us,

We are enfolded warmly

in the love you left behind.

And even though your laughter No longer rings in our ears,

It still resonates in our hearts

When we think of you.

These gifts of your memory will be ours forever, And will be guarded like treasure with our souls, As we wait to be united once again In the glory of heaven.

Love Always,
Bill, Dee Decker
Cyndi, Doug, Andrea
and Brittany Yanniello

Daylight Savings Time begins Sunday, April 6 at 2 a.m.

OBITUARIES

Lisa Ann Phillips

Sept. 8, 1965 - March 27, 2003

Lisa Ann Phillips, age 37, of Lovells, died March 27 at Grayling Mercy Hospital. She was born on September 8, 1965 in Saginaw to Robert William Morrell and Shirley Ann Lichon.

Lisa Ann Morrell was married to Roger D. Phillips on September 4, 1987 in Rockford.

She graduated from St. Stephens High School in Saginaw. She was a member of St. Stephens Catholic Church while she lived in Saginaw. She moved to Lovells in 1999.

Lisa enjoyed spring and more mushroom picking with her husband and daughters. She was an outstanding wife and mother who loved the outdoors.

She is survived by her husband, Roger; two daughters, Jessica Lynn and Caitlyn Marie Phillips, her father, Robert William Morrell of Freeland; her mother, Shirley Ann Ignasinski of Alger; two sisters, Lora (Todd) Stull of Edwardsburg and Lois Morrell of Middleton; one brother, Robert John Morrell of Saginaw; one niece and two nephews.

Funeral services were held on Monday, March 31 at Sorenson Funeral Home. Pastor Dean Coursey officiated.

Arrangements by Sorenson Funeral Home, McEvers Chapel, Grayling.

Rudolph P. Harrison

Oct. 18, 1911 - March 29, 2003

Rudolph P. Harrison, age 91, of Houghton Lake died March 29 at Grayling Mercy Manor. He was born on October 18, 1911 in Grayling, to John and Anna (Gorance) Harrison.

Rudolph was married to June Sergeant on October 24, 1940 in Gaylord.

Mr. Harrison lived in the Houghton Lake area for over 60 years. He served in the United States Army during World War II, and worked in the CCC Camps and the National Guard for many years. He was known for his championship boxing in Golden Gloves and CCC Camps.

He is survived by his wife, June of Houghton Lake; three sons, William (Sharon) Harrison of Beaver Creek, Thomas (Peggy) Harrison of Houghton Lake, and Ralph (Jan) Harrison of Houghton Lake; eight grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

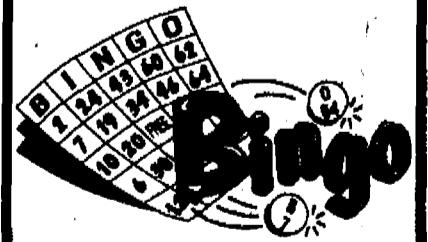
Funeral services were held on Wednesday, March 26, Reverend Carl Heidel officiated. Burial was at Crestview Cemetery, Markey Township.

Arrangements by Christler Funeral Home, Prudenville Chapel.

Card of Thanks

To all the local businesses and citizens in our community displaying their support for our soldiers in harm's way, a great big heartfelt thank you.

God Bless You,
Jim and Luanne Shirkey



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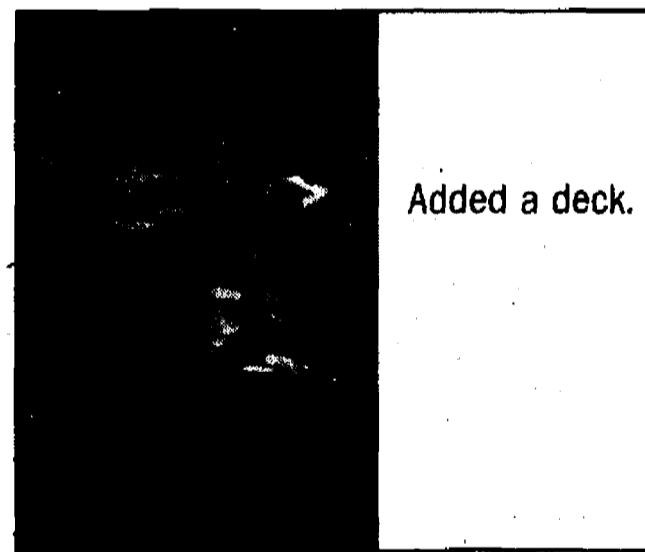
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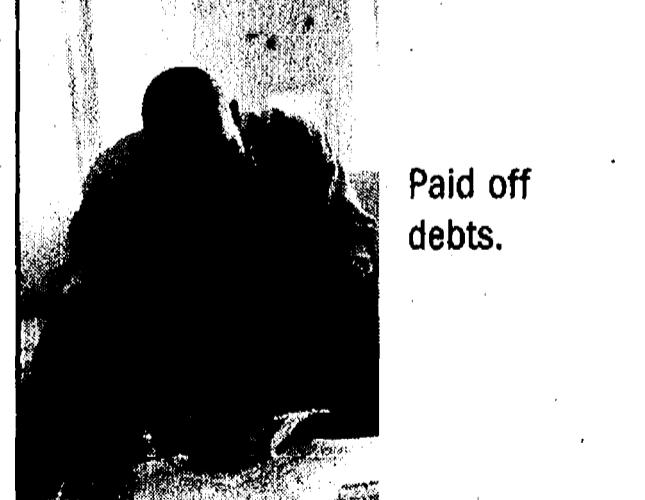
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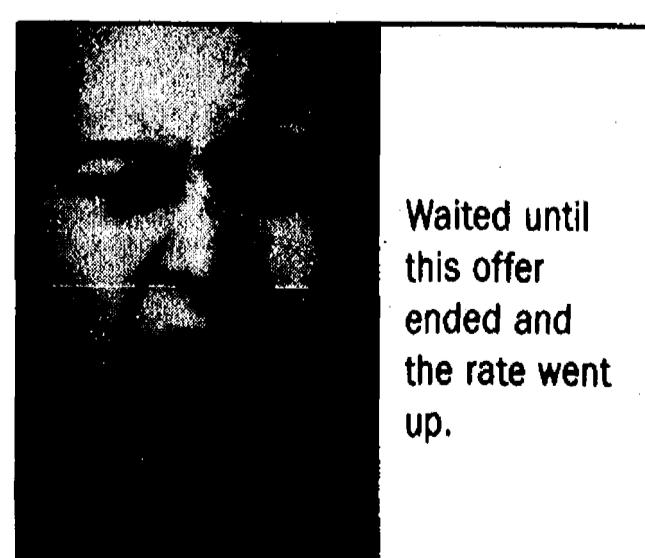
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Added a deck.



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Waited until this offer ended and the rate went up.

OPINIONS

Violence + violence = violence

To the editor,

It is with a heavy heart that I write this letter and that is because when and if it appears in print, the violence of the war in Iraq will take center stage in the world.

Perhaps history will record America as an aggressor and Iraq as the victim because of America's rush to war. Diplomacy was not an option for Mr. Bush and his team. World opinion, church and religious leaders' statements about the unjust war mattered not to Mr. Bush. War has become the name of the game.

Terrorism will never be completely eliminated because terror-

ism is an act of violence. It cannot be fought with violence because more terrorism will occur. That is the problem Israel is experiencing now with all its armed might furnished by America. Trying to eliminate terrorism is like standing in a swamp filled with mosquitoes. You may kill a few that land on you, but the others keep coming back to you and you keep getting stung.

War brings death, suffering and destruction and a deep distrust of the conquerors. As America starts the war, it will send its troops to start killing Iraqi soldiers attempting to defend their homeland against the invaders.

Now the killing and the blood letting (has begun) in earnest.

In my last letter, I wrote there would be more terrorist attacks if we go to war in the Middle East and now that has become quite apparent because America is at High Alert as this letter is being written and is in a state of siege.

This President has not only put our servicemen and women at risk of death, but every man, woman and child now face similar risk here in America and also worldwide.

Our government tells us to go on with our lives and activities, but in the back of our minds will be the constant thought: "Will I be next or maybe one of my fam-

The opinions expressed in the letters and columns on this page are solely those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of The Crawford County Avalanche.

ily or friends?"

National landmarks are closed to the public. A simple brush fire in Iraq and the Middle East could change into a roaring inferno. War is indeed hell, my friends. I pray that this armed conflict is short so American and Iraqi lives can be saved.

Remember, in America everyone has the right and obligation to make his or her views known. Being for peace and against war does not make a person less of a patriot. It was dissent that ended the fiasco in Vietnam, after 58,000 lost American lives. May God bless America.

Dennis Meyers

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SEGMENT II: \$30, 6 Hours Lecture Defensive Driving, Teen Classes Meet: 3 Days
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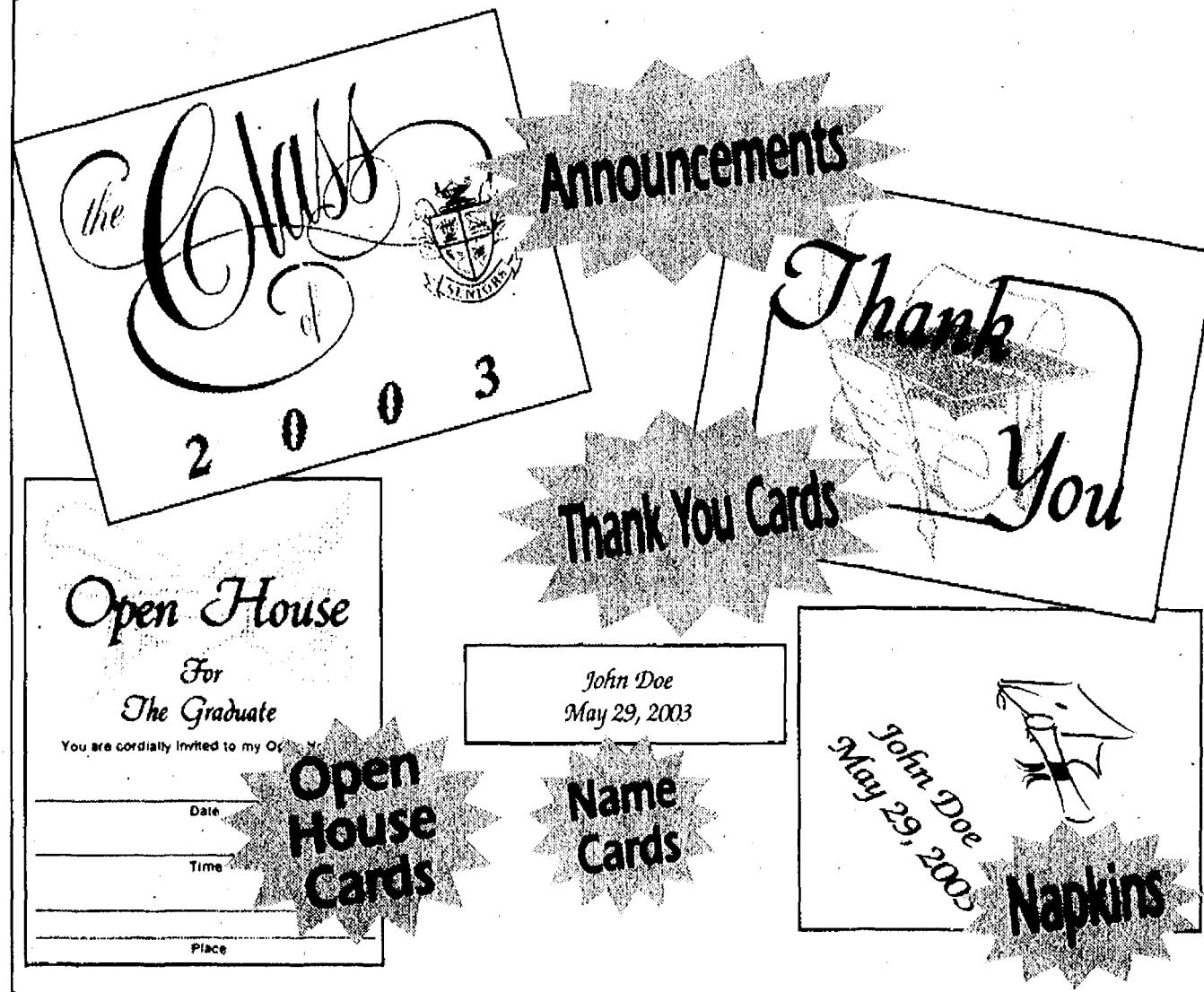


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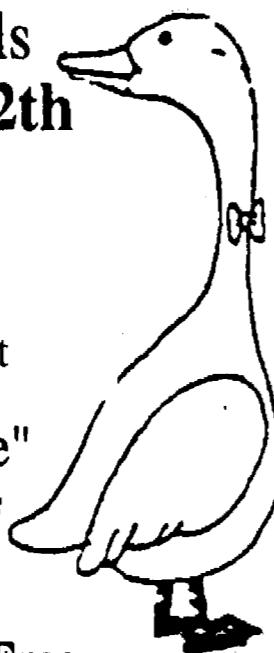
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Taxpayers: avoid last minute filing

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) is urging taxpayers to avoid the stress of filing their returns at the eleventh hour and offers tips to help taxpayers beat the crush of the April 15 deadline.

"One in five of the nation's taxpayers wait until the final week to file their taxes by the April 15 deadline," said IRS Michigan spokesperson Sarah Wreford. "Last year, 27.1 million taxpayers - more than 20 percent - waited until the last minute to submit their income tax return. The deadline marks the peak in terms of the number of returns filed."

"There is no need to be in line at the post office at midnight on April 15," said Terry Lutes, director, IRS Electronic Tax Administration. "Our best advice: e-file now; pay later. You can electronically file your returns and schedule a payment by April 15. However, it's important that you start now to prepare, gather your documents and necessary forms."

Most taxpayers who wait until the last minute generally owe taxes to the government. Their tax returns also tend to be more complex. The IRS receives approximately 61 percent of the balance-due returns after April 15. In contrast, people who are due a tax refund are early filers. Approximately 73 percent of refund returns are received before April 1.

According to Wreford, here are some tips to make your tax life easier:

Use IRS e-file now; pay later

There's no need to hold onto your tax return just because you owe the government money.

You can file electronically now and set your automatic payment for April 15. You can use IRS e-file either through your tax preparer or purchased software. You can pay through an automatic debit to your bank account. You also can pay by credit card. If the government owes you money, use e-file now, ask for a direct deposit and get your refund within 10 days. IRS e-file is fast, accurate and secure.

An e-filed return is accepted or rejected within 48 hours. It has only a one percent error rate compared to 20 percent for a paper return. IRS e-file, which started in 1986, has handled nearly 300 million tax returns over 17 years without incident.

Free File

The newest way to file your taxes this year is by using the free software offered by one of 17 companies. The software companies are offering free use of their proprietary software and free IRS e-filing to those taxpayers who meet certain criteria.

Taxpayers who meet the companies' eligibility for free services - and most taxpayers will be eligible based on income, age or state residency - can click on the Free

File site through www.irs.gov. Even if a taxpayer is not eligible for Free File, they should still consider using IRS e-file either through their preparer or their purchased software. The IRS already has surpassed its first-year goal of two million Free File returns. Eligibility for Free File is based on income, age, state residency or military service.

IRS.gov and "Where's My Refund?"

The IRS Website is a taxpayer's best source of information 24 hours a day, seven days a week. At www.irs.gov, taxpayers can find just about all the forms and publications they need to prepare their taxes. Taxpayers can find answers to many of their questions by looking at Tax Tips or Frequently Asked Questions. Taxpayers at IRS.gov can click on Free File and prepare their taxes. They also can click on "Where's My Refund?" and find out the status of your refund.

"Where's My Refund?" is the most common question asked of IRS customer service representatives. In addition to the new web site link, IRS also established a new toll free Refund Hotline at 800-829-1954. Since January, the "Where's My Refund?" Web site has logged 8.7 million requests.

Prepare now

Make sure you have all the documents you need. Gather your W-2(s), which show(s) your wages and the state and federal taxes withheld. If you have interest earned on a bank account or money fund, you will need your Form 1099 showing interest earnings.

If you own a home, you will need your Form 1098, which shows the amount of mortgage interest you paid and the amount of real estate taxes paid. If you itemize, make sure you locate the receipts for your deductions such as charitable donations, medical expenses or other items.

Be sure to have all required Social Security numbers for you, your spouse, children or child care provider. Avoid common errors such as a wrong Social Security number, a math mistake or forgetting to sign your tax return.

File for extension

Still need more time? File for an extension, either by using the telephone or electronic filing, before April 15. Last year, 8.2 million taxpayers (186,000 in Michigan) needed the automatic four-month extension. Remember, the Form 4868 is an extension to file a return; not an extension to pay taxes due. You still must pay your estimated balance, if you owe taxes, by the April 15 deadline.

Can't pay? Call the IRS and ask about an installment plan. The Form 4868 provides for an automatic extension to file until August 15.

Kirtland names 51 students to its honors society

Kirtland Community College's honor society, Alpha Omicron Gamma, has 51 new members after a recent honors ceremony, bringing its total membership to 77, the college has announced.

Alpha Omicron Gamma is a chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society.

New students inducted for the Winter, 2003 semester include:

Grayling residents - Bruce Feldhauser, Michelle McGinnis, and Margaret Nephew; Roscommon residents - Levi Burkett, Ashley Kelley, Debra McReynolds, Evelyn Moss, Jacklyn Riley, Jamesina Vetraino, and Amanda Zuker.

The following students from our area, inducted during the fall semester, also were honored:

Grayling residents - Jonathan DeVries, Martin Kroell IV, Stacie Mead, Annette Nettleton, Nicole Persing, Brandy Ritter; Roscommon residents - Kimberly Betts, Dane Booth, William Frampton, Stephanie Kann, Christopher Kuenzer, Angela McGillis, and Ronald Watson Jr.

Phi Theta Kappa is an international honor society specifically for accredited community and junior colleges. Its purpose is to recognize and promote the academic



Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell McMillan

Trisha Pieratt and Mitchell McMillan were married September 7, 2002 at the First United Methodist Church in Mt. Pleasant.

The bride is the daughter of Rick and Kay Pieratt of Mt. Pleasant. The groom is the son of James and Anna McMillan of Grayling.

The Reverend John Boley officiated in the 2 p.m., double-ring ceremony.

The bride wore a white, strapless organza gown with an empire waist, with cascading beads, and a semi-cathedral train. Her flowers were a hand-tied bouquet of lavender roses, purple lisianthus, freesia and limonium.

Matron of honor was Lisa Ervin, cousin of the bride. Bridesmaids were Melissa Pieratt, cousin of the bride, and Melanie Knight, Betsy O'Malley and Wendy McConnell, friends

of the bride.

The groom wore a black tuxedo with a silver vest and tie.

Best man was Mike McMillan, brother of the groom. Groomsmen were Scott Pieratt, brother of the bride, and Steve Branch, Mike Kirmo and Jason Neely, friends of the groom.

Ushers were Chris Wolcott and David Teddy, friends of the groom.

A reception for 325 guests was held at the Mt. Pleasant Holiday Inn following the ceremony.

The couple honeymooned in Traverse City. They reside in Clare.

Both the bride and groom attended Central Michigan University and are physical therapists. The bride is employed at MidMichigan Medical Center's Health Park in Mt. Pleasant. The groom is employed by Evergreen Physical Therapy.

Oberg, Barlick marry



Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Barlick

Kathleen Oberg, of Grayling, daughter of Gerald and Susan Love of Indian River, and Stephen Barlick, of Grayling, son of Paul and Gertrud Barlick of Luzerne, were married on March 22, 2003 at the Abundant Life Tabernacle with Pastor Lyle Studer officiating.

Pieratt, McMillan wed

Society earned the 2002 Pinnacle Scholarship Award from the international headquarters in Jackson, Mississippi. The scholarship award program annually recognizes chapters that increase the acceptance rate of eligible students by 10 percent over the previous year. Alpha Omicron Gamma Chapter inducted 77 new members for the fall and winter semesters.

The \$100 scholarship stipend was presented to the chapter by KCC president Dr. Charles Roric at the formal induction ceremony held at the student center Café on Friday, March 14.

In related news, the Alpha Omicron Gamma Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa International Honor

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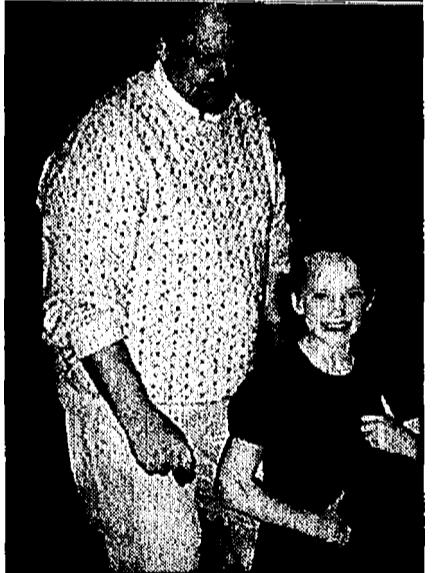
Dancing the evening away

The first annual Father-Daughter Dance saw over 420 daughters and "dads" enjoy an evening of fun and special time to be together at AuSable Primary. For the young ladies

whose dads couldn't attend, surrogate dads - uncles, grandpas, and school staff - took over for the evening. The dance was open to girls who attend AuSable Primary, Grayling Elementary and Frederic Elementary.

Don Knapp, physical education teacher at AuSable Primary, presented the idea for the dance. James Brown, who teaches music at the AuSable Primary donated his services as the deejay for the evening. The dance was sponsored by the AuSable Primary/Grayling Elementary Parent Teacher Organization.

Each couple had their photograph taken as a special memento of the evening. Carnations were available for purchase at the dance and the PTO and several businesses donated door prizes.



Teachers make a difference today, tomorrow and forever. Now, we're giving you a chance to honor the teacher that touched your life with our annual

2003 Golden Apple Award

Nominate the teacher who has inspired you the most for The Golden Apple Award from the Crawford County Avalanche.

Write today and tell us about your special

teacher. Contest is open to anyone who is, or ever was, a student.

Entries will be judged by Milliman Communications in Lansing, Michigan. The writer of the winning entry will receive \$50.00 and will be featured in a special section of the Crawford County Avalanche in the May 8, 2003 edition during National Teacher Appreciation Week.

Deadline is April 28, 2003. Here are some questions to get you started:

Who is the teacher you best remember? Why? Who is the teacher who cared about you as a person? Who encouraged you to do your best, mentored you and helped you become more successful than you ever thought possible?

I want to thank _____ (Teacher's Name) for a job well done. He/she deserves the Golden Apple Award because _____ (Complete in 50 words or less)

My teacher teaches (taught) _____ during _____ My age _____ (if still in school) _____
My name _____ I am (was) a student at _____ School Name _____ Year _____
My address _____ Street _____ City _____ Zip _____ My phone number _____
Entries must be received by 5 p.m. April 28, 2003. Mail or drop off at:
The Golden Apple Award, c/o the Crawford County Avalanche, 102 Michigan Ave., P.O. Box 490, Grayling, MI 49738

Newspapers In Education

Avoid drowsy driving... get enough sleep

► National Sleep Awareness Week is March 31 through April 6

This year's National Sleep

Awareness Week, March 31 - April 6, aims to encourage people to "Let Sleep Work for You!"

Drowsy and fatigued driving is the primary cause of 100,000 crashes per year, which nationally result in 71,000 injuries and 1,500 deaths, as reported by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). These statistics show there are many drivers who are operating motor vehicles while being too drowsy to drive safely.

The Michigan Office of Highway Safety Planning has joined the National Sleep Foundation as a cooperative co-sponsor to assist in promoting events and activities throughout Michigan that are geared toward building awareness of the importance of successful sleep.

National Sleep Awareness Week is a way to inform people about sleeping successfully in order to improve the quality of

their lives and their driving.

Persons who receive fewer than six hours of sleep per night, are awake for 20 hours or longer, or work more than one job and/or night shifts are prime candidates for unsuccessful sleep patterns. This lack of sleep often results in drowsy drivers.

The only cure for drowsy driving is to get a sufficient amount of sleep prior to driving. The general rule is one hour of sleep for every two hours awake.

Other preventive measures are to avoid driving during late night hours, share the driving when taking long trips, stop and take a nap in a safe place and avoid sedating medications prior to driving.

For more information on National Sleep Awareness Week or to find a Community Sleep Awareness Partner, visit the National Sleep Foundation's web site at www.sleepfoundation.org.

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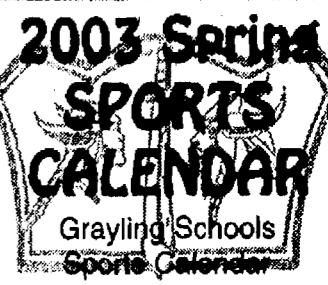


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SPORTS & RECREATION



Pages 6-7B

Crawford County Avalanche

Thursday, April 3, 2003

Spring sports games, meets start next week

► Track, boys tennis, and girls soccer to kick off 2003 spring season

by Caleb Casey

Staff Writer

The spring high school sports season – which includes baseball, softball, track and field, girls soccer, girls golf, and boys tennis – is just around the corner. For Grayling High School, the season gets underway next week with a track meet at Roscommon, a tennis meet in Grayling, and a girls soccer match at Tawas.

With regard to game schedules, spring sports fans should be aware that the Crawford AuSable School District 2002-2003 School Calendar lists many incorrect dates for spring sports games and meets.

"Usually the calendar is pretty accurate except for the spring sports," said CASD Athletic Director Brian Banda. "That will always be the case."

The reason, Banda said, is because the calendar has to go to print before the school year starts and there are often scheduling changes in between that time and the spring sports season. At the beginning of this school year, it was thought GHS would begin play in its new athletic league – the Lake Michigan Conference – in the spring of 2003, but that didn't happen and game schedules had to be adjusted accordingly.

(For the most recent GHS spring sports game/meet schedules, check out our Spring Sports Calendar on Pages 6-7B.)

Two of Grayling's spring sports – baseball and softball – will be getting an early introduction to the LMC this spring. (GHS starts its official inaugural season in the Lake Michigan Conference in the fall of 2003.)

The baseball and softball teams will be playing a full conference schedule in both their current league – the North East Michigan Conference – and their new league – the LMC.

"This will give us an idea what to expect next year," Banda said.

Grayling's varsity baseball and softball teams will not be eligible for all-league awards or a league title in the LMC this year, Banda said. GHS is still officially a member of the NEMC.

Three of the four baseball and softball teams have new coaches this year. Donna Boughner, varsity softball coach, is the only returner. The new varsity baseball coach is Bob Gorski, and the JV coaches are Travis Huber (baseball) and Loren Bass (softball). "Bob is doing a nice job of promoting his program and generating enthusiasm," Banda said. "Loren comes with a lot of experience coaching."

Opening day for the varsity baseball and softball teams is Monday, April 14. On April 14, the varsity squads will both host Roscommon beginning at 4 p.m.

Continued on Page 2B

See "SPRING SPORTS..."

Girls soccer team has a new coach



Photo by Caleb Casey

Coach John Haven demonstrates a dribbling drill at an early GHS girls soccer team practice inside the elementary school gym. For more on the team and its new coach, see Page 3B.

Season opens with April 9 meet at Roscommon

New coaches take over GHS track program

Boys squad to be led by Darnell Wilson, a former all-stater in track

by Caleb Casey

Staff Writer

Darnell Wilson, a former all-state track athlete at Flint Beecher High School, is the new coach of the Grayling High School boys track and

field team. Wilson currently teaches math in the special education program at GHS.

Coach Wilson is in his first year of living and working in Grayling. He moved here from Flint to be with his fiancee,

who lives in Grayling.

At Flint Beecher, Wilson was an all-state track athlete, and was ranked in the top 15 runners in the nation in the 110-meter hurdles event. He also played college football – at Central Michigan University – from 1995-2000.

He brings track experience – and enthusiasm – to the GHS coaching job.

"I had an opportunity to run against some of the best in the country," Coach Wilson said. "I

felt I could bring some of my track tradition up here. I bring something new to the table."

"People here aren't used to hearing about track, they hear about basketball, football maybe," Wilson said. "I hope we can open doors up and put track back on the map."

Wilson's team is solid in the numbers department. "We've got 35 strong," Wilson said at a recent practice.

Continued on Page 4B

See "BOYS TRACK..."



Photos by Caleb Casey

Coach Darnell Wilson explains a drill to members of the boys track team at a recent practice at Grayling Middle School.

GHS teacher Heidi West to coach girls squad

by Caleb Casey

Staff Writer

One of her favorite pastimes is running. Heidi West, an English teacher at Grayling High School, is the new coach of the GHS girls track and field team, which is currently practicing and preparing for the 2003 spring season.

Coach West said she ran track in high school and still enjoys running. She has competed in a few smaller races but said she mostly just runs "for myself."

"I got the bug," she said.

West, a second-year teacher in her first year at GHS, lives in Traverse City. She is originally from Indiana, and moved to northern Michigan from Florida last summer. "I wanted to move closer to home (Indiana), I was ready to get back to the mid-west," she said. "Michigan appealed to me."

West said she got into coaching the track team this year as a way to "do things with the kids outside of class. It's a nice diversion."

West's team has about a dozen athletes (three seniors, three juniors, the rest underclassmen) – a lower number than desirable. "It's a small team but they have a lot of heart, so we should be okay," West said. "It's a young

Continued on Page 2B

See "GIRLS TRACK..."



Coach Heidi West gives a few pointers to Tracy Parkinson during practice.

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Girls track: new coach takes over

Continued from Page 1B

team, so hopefully they'll have some success this year. Hopefully we'll have some good leadership from our

seniors."

The girls track program "is kind of in a rebuilding phase. It's had a different coach every year, so there hasn't been any

continuity. Because of that, there's not a lot of faith in the program — hopefully we can change that," Coach West said.

The Grayling High School

track team is scheduled to open its 2003 competition schedule with a meet at Roscommon on Wednesday, April 9, at 4 p.m.



Ashley Hawley (front) and Jessica Green run a cool-down lap at the end of a recent practice.

Photos by Caleb Casey
Coach Heidi West talks with a few of her track athletes after practice (indoors at the Grayling Middle School).

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Ron Thomson

Athletic Director says no cuts planned

► Athletics department looks at other ways to trim its budget

by Caleb Casey
Staff Writer

Brian Banda, Crawford AuSable School District Athletic Director, said last week that no cuts in athletic programs are planned for next year, despite budget concerns within the district.

"My philosophy as athletic director, and I think that of the school board, is to provide as many opportunities for athletes as possible," Banda said.

"There are lots of rumors going around that programs are going to be cut," Banda said. "The intent is to cut no programs whatsoever."

"I am not an advocate of pay-to-play," Banda added, referring to the practice of making athletes pay a fee to play school sports. Some northern Michigan schools have turned to pay-to-play to help with budget issues, but GHS is looking at other ways to trim its athletics budget, he said.

Banda said that while there are no plans to cut specific sports next year, there is a possibility some sports will be cut if player numbers are too low.

"We're going to lay down criteria for numbers, and if a team doesn't have the minimum number of players at the start of the season, we'll give it a week, and if a week after the season starts there still aren't enough players, we'll look at discontinuing the sport for a year, not permanently," Banda said. "That's the direction we're looking at. Cutting programs is a last resort."

As an example, Banda mentioned the 2002 cross country team, which was low enough on participants this school year to at least consider disbanding it, but he was reluctant to do so because, in part, "it is difficult to get a program going again once it's been gone for a year," Banda said.

The cross country program wasn't cut this year, but Banda said, "We probably won't be able to do that next year" if player numbers are that low again.

Banda said he is looking at having to trim about \$30,000 from the athletics budget for next year. If the governor's proposed budget is altered to affect school systems more, it may be worse, he said.

"We'll cut the sports equally across the board if the school board calls for cuts," he said.

Banda said the district will

probably save \$10,000 on busing alone next year with the change in athletic conferences.

GHS currently plays in the North East Michigan Conference, a league that includes drives to Tawas, Bay City, Oscoda, and Pinconning. Next year, Grayling will be in the Lake Michigan Conference, a league with opponents that are significantly closer — such as Kalkaska, Boyne City, and Traverse City St. Francis.

Also, the basketball teams — freshman, JV, and varsity — will continue to play tripleheaders, which eliminates the separate trips usually made by the freshman teams and puts all three squads on one bus.

"I'm confident we can make these changes without cutting programs," Banda said. "There are a lot of ways to save money before cutting programs."

GHS looks to replace gymnasium floor

► Decision now up to the CASD school board; cost is about \$100,000

by Caleb Casey
Staff Writer

Crawford AuSable School District Athletic Director Brian Banda recently informed the school board that the high school needs a new gymnasium floor.

Banda said the floor has — over the years — been sanded down in places to smooth out ripples cre-

ated by separate incidences of serious water damage, and the sanding has created thin spots in places and nails are starting to come up through the floor. "It's becoming a liability issue," Banda said.

Banda said the replacement of the floor would cost about \$100,000. The final decision on what to do with the gym floor must be made by the CASD school board.

The money to reconstruct the gym floor would have to come out of the district's general fund — funds from the recent bond

issue are not eligible to be used for that purpose, Banda said.

Banda also said the school's track at the football field is in need of some repair. "The track is showing some deterioration," he said. "It needs some patching, especially where the football and soccer teams come across and where the tire damage occurred."

(Vandals drove across the track and onto the football field a couple of years ago.)

"Other than that, most of our athletic facilities are in pretty good shape," Banda said. "We're fortunate to have the facilities we

have. We get so many compliments on that facility — Don Ferguson Field and the track — from people who come in from out of town."

Banda said he encourages anyone who notices a problem with one of the school's athletic facilities to call his office at 344-3523 to report it. Since not all fields and facilities are used during each sports season, sometimes school crews are not the first ones to notice a problem, and it helps the athletic department if people report problems right away, Banda said.

Spring sports games, meets start next week

Continued from Page 1B

The teams play doubleheaders.

The JV baseball and softball teams will open their season with a doubleheader at Roscommon on Monday, April 14, at 4 p.m. On Wednesday, April 16, both teams are scheduled to host Houghton Lake at 4 p.m.

The track team, which also has two new coaches — Heidi West (girls) and Darnell Wilson (boys), is set to begin its season with a meet at Roscommon (vs. Roscommon and Cheboygan) on Wednesday, April 9, at 4 p.m. (This meet was originally scheduled to be held in Grayling. The venue has been changed.)

"It looks like our numbers in track are up," Banda said. "Coach Wilson has just been ruthless" in recruiting athletes.

"He's been a great recruiter," Banda said. "It will be nice to see those bigger numbers."

The track program only has two home meets scheduled for

the 2003 season. One reason for this is Grayling's pole vaulting pit does not meet MHSAA specifications.

Banda said the regulations for pole vaulting pits were changed after the 2002 season, making over 90 percent of the state's school pole vaulting areas non-conforming. Grayling had to make a decision in February — during a time of great budget uncertainty for the school district — with regard to the pit, which would have cost over \$7,000 to bring up to the current acceptable standards.

The district decided not to spend the money, and as a result, there will not be any pole vaulting at GHS this year.

The girls soccer team, which has a new coach this year — John Haven, will open its 2003 game schedule with a match at Tawas on Wednesday, April 9, at 5 p.m. On Friday, April 11, the team will play at Roscommon. The squad's first home game is

scheduled for Wednesday, April 16, at 5 p.m.

The boys tennis team — coached by Joe Mau again this year — plays its first meet on Thursday, April 10, at 4 p.m. at GHS. On Monday, April 14, the Vikings will host Boyne City at 4 p.m.

The girls golf team will start its season with a meet at Hillman on April 16. The team — coached again by Tanya Wolcott this year — will host its first meet of the season on Monday, April 28.

Overall, out of the nine head coaches for GHS spring sports, six are new and only three are returners. Banda said the new coaches seem to be fitting in well so far.

"The new coaches we've hired, we've been fortunate with these coaches," Banda said. "What they've provided more than anything is enthusiasm — getting kids excited about their sport."

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YAMAHA

Girls soccer team has a new coach

► Coach John Haven hopes to help build 'a complete program'

by Caleb Casey
Staff Writer

John Haven, Grayling High School's new girls soccer coach, hopes to build a solid team this year and strengthen the overall program.

"I see a lot of good things and a lot of room for improvement," Haven said. "We just want to work on improving every game. We will set our goals so we can be challenged, but still able to meet them and keep moving up."

Haven has soccer coaching experience at several different levels, and he has been involved with soccer at various capacities for over 10 years. His son James, a sophomore, plays for the GHS varsity boys soccer team, and he has two elementary level daughters.

Haven said that with his girls coming up through the system, he talked over the prospect of coaching the GHS team with several people and decided to give it a try. "I thought maybe I can make a difference," he said.

The team has been practicing for more than three weeks. Haven had about 20 players at early practices. "We've had pretty good turn-out," he said. "I'm happy with it."

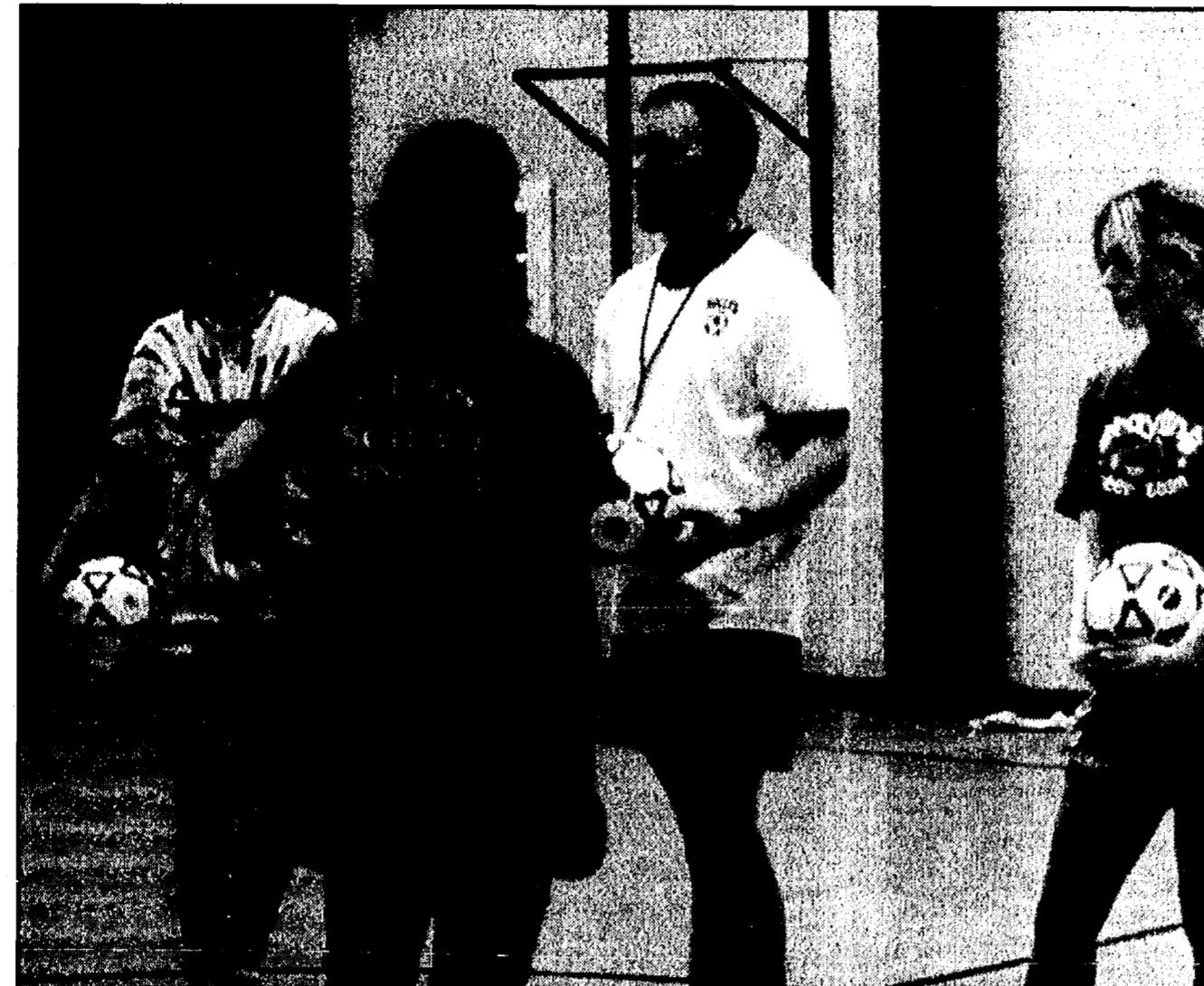
The squad will have several returning players from last year's team, including six seniors, and a mix of juniors, sophomores, and freshmen. "I've got talent at all grades," Haven said. "It looks good up and down the line."

Haven said he hopes to help build "a complete program," in part through getting the varsity program (players and coaches) involved with the local youth soccer teams by conducting clinics.

Haven said he is approaching the job as a potential long-term assignment, but added that "even if the coach (in the future) isn't me, I want to help build a program. I've had a lot of support and I'll do what I can to make some improvements."

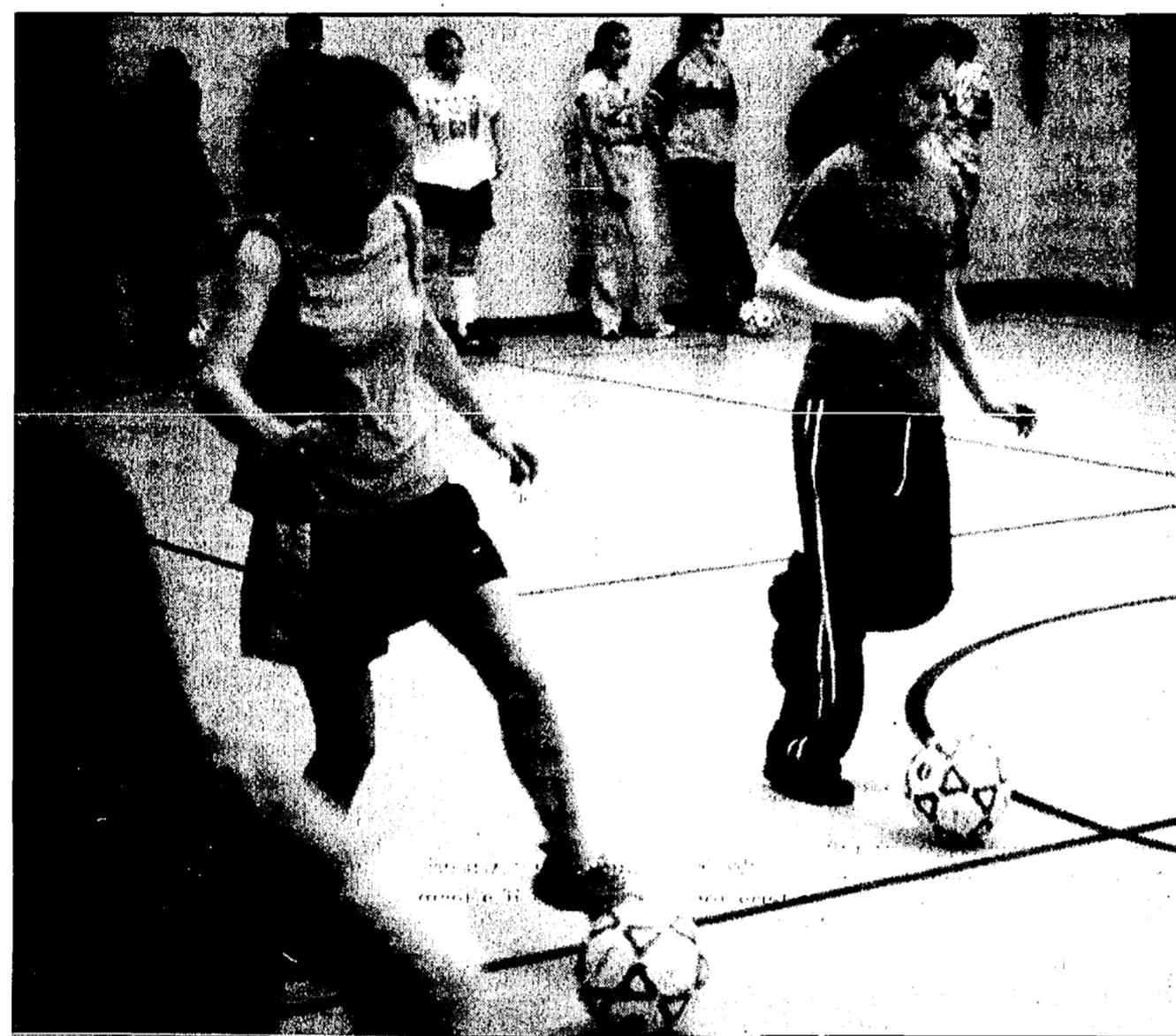
"I'm really enjoying doing this," Haven said. "I'm looking forward to the season."

The Vikings open their season



Photos by Caleb Casey

Coach John Haven talks with his players at a recent practice inside the Grayling Elementary School gymnasium.



Jill Seager (left) and Monica Safin work on their dribbling during a drill at practice.

with a game at Tawas on Wednesday, April 9 at 5 p.m. On Friday, April 11, the team will play at Roscommon at 5 p.m.

The squad's first home game is scheduled for Wednesday, April 16, at 5 p.m. The Vikings will play the Spartans of Pinconning.

BOWLING LEAGUE

American Men's League

GADCO 16 - 05

Warren Forest Products 14 - 07

Fenton's Auto Service 14 - 07

Helsel Forest Products 12 - 09

Forrest Brothers 10 - 11

Scheer Motors 09 - 12

McLeans ACE 07 - 14

Moore's Automotive 02 - 19

High Series: L. Davis, 729; J. Robideau, 699; D. Yanniello, 618.

High Game: J. Robideau, 259;

L. Davis, 259; D. Yanniello, 234;

J. Helsel, 234.

Pioneer League

South Side River Rats 40 - 16

Avalanche 37 - 19

Rochette's 34.5 - 21.5

Hawk Ridge Golf 27.5 - 28.5

Custom Interior 26.5 - 29.5

The Ice House 22.5 - 33.5

Chemical Bank 21 - 35

McDonald's of Grayling 15 - 41

High Series: D. Hollis, 553; G. VanDeCastelee, 531; C. Jones, 519; J. Coors, 512.

High Game: D. Hollis, 204; J. Coors, 203; L. Golnick, 201; S. Johnson, 199.

Recreation

Gale Enterprises 35 - 21

Woody Girls' 32 - 24

Mickey Perez CPA 31 - 25

Peterson's Saw Service 30 - 26

Chicken Little Joint Pro 29 - 27

Hawk Ridge Golf 25 - 31

Glens' Market 23 - 33

Coldwell Banker 19 - 37

High Series: S. Harney, 566; M. Starks, 537; H. Larm, 509; S. Johnson, 505.

High Game: S. Harney, 209; M. Starks, 208; K. Moshier, 192; S. Johnson, 188.

Senior Bowling

Grayling Pharmacy 74.5 - 33.5

Cornell Insurance 56.5 - 51.5

Spike's Keg O'Nails 56 - 52

Gray Rock 53 - 55

Flowers By Josie 50.5 - 57.5

Sylvester's Sports 49.5 - 58.5

Hall's Snow Removal 47 - 61

Buccilli's Pizza 44 - 64

High Series Men: D. Germain, 559; J. Rasmussen, 542; B. Hollis, 535.

High Game Men: P. Faustman, 205; B. Hollis, 197; O. Brantley, 197; K. Louchart, 197.

High Series Women: G. VanDeCastelee, 476; D. Brantley, 466; R. Joyce, 452.

High Game Women: G. VanDeCastelee, 180; M. Ryss, 172; A. Payne, 171.

Sunday Nite Mixed Doubles

Wakeley's Auto Parts 71 - 34

D.X.R. Computers 71 - 34

Spark's 66 - 39

Little Tyke Day Care 48 - 57

Hart Pontiac-GMC 48 - 57

North Pure Ice 47 - 58

Calkin's Excavating 35 - 70

Shady Acres 34 - 71

High Series Men: D. Yanniello, 597; S. Miller, 578; J. Meharg, 534.

High Game Men: D. Yanniello, 224; S. Miller, 221; J. Meharg, 210.

High Series Women: C. Yanniello, 611; S. Romain, 532; T. Day, 510.

High Game Women: C. Yanniello, 245; T. Day, 185; V. Meharg, 182.

National First

Ausable Construction 63 - 28

Denholm Chiropractic 54 - 37

Faustman's Insurance 44 - 47

Corky's Karaoke 44 - 47

Scott Pittman Builders 44 - 47

Legion Lanes 40 - 51

Northern White Tail 39 - 52

Hart Pontiac-GMC 36 - 55

High Series: D. Canfield, 660; J. Helsel, 648; S. Miller, 616.

High Game: D. Canfield, 265; D. Deming, 255; J. Helsel, 242.

Northwood

Lucky & Laura's 33.5 - 22.5

North MI Financial 33 - 23

Hometown Furniture 32.5 - 23.5

Grayling Chiropractic 29 - 27

Corky's Karaoke 28 - 28

Hart Pontiac-GMC 28 - 28

Beckett Contracting 22.5 - 33.5

Calkin's Excavating 17.5 - 38.5

High Series: T. Rock, 516; T. Day, 512; D. Roman, 494.

High Game: T. Rock, 194; S. Romain, 192; J. Denno, 182.

POOL LEAGUE

Women's Standings

Swamp II 205

Sawmill II 190

Plaza 179

American Legion 175

Gray Rock 171

Frederic Inn 151

Spike's 137

Sawmill I 136

5 Ball Runs: Dee (Gray Rock),

LaNette (Swamp), Cindy (Sawmill 2), Johanna (Spike's).

6 Ball Runs: Annette (Swamp), Rose (Swamp).

5 Ball Runs: Dee (Gray Rock),

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All of our many wonderful exhibitors, Houghton Lake School System, including the great custodians, Mid-States Exposition, Mineau the Clown, Houghton Lake Band Boosters, The Donut Hole, Dan Fishell, The Resorter, The Herald, The Avalanche, The Buyer's Guide, Northland Communications: WHGR and WUPS, Gannon Broadcasting Systems: WGRY and WQON, and the many volunteers that worked so hard to present this show. But most of all, to you the public for helping support our Scholarship Fund for Crawford AuSable, Houghton Lake, and Gerrish-Higgins Schools.

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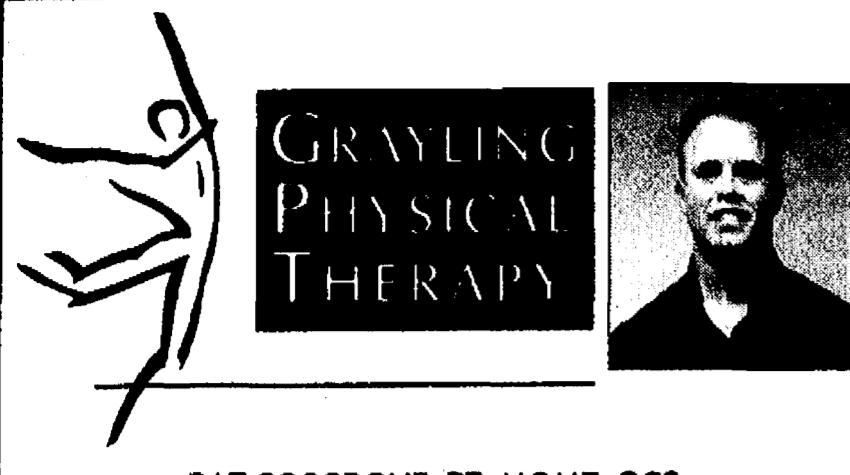
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ANNOUNCING

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Ophthalmology

Peter D. Fedor, MD, has joined the staff of Mercy Hospital Grayling as a specialist in Ophthalmology. A graduate of the Comenius University in Bratislava, Slovak Republic. Dr. Fedor completed his residency and fellowship at Henry Ford Health System, Detroit.

Dr. Fedor is practicing with optometrists William Dean, DO and Robert Aubry, DO.

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Boys track: new coach takes over

Continued from Page 1B

"Look for these guys (to do well this year): Eric Hunter, Chad Helsel, and Tyler Cragg (in sprint events), Tim Umlor in discus, and Pawel Wojcik in hurdles," Wilson said. "We've got some depth in some areas."

"I just want to see people succeed and excel. My goal is to get as many state finalists this year as we can. We have guys who can make it if they work hard," Coach Wilson said. "I want to see guys get scholarships (for track) so they can go to college."

"The kids are having fun — that's the number one thing," Wilson said. "I want them to have fun while winning in the process."

Wilson said that as a coach, he thinks of himself as a role model, and believes he can be "the big brother to hang with" that some of his athletes might not have.

"I love the kids, I treat them as my family," Coach Wilson said. "In order to win track meets, you have to be as one, as brothers."

Wilson noted that he has one assistant coach — Matt Warren — who is "doing a good job."

Overall, Wilson said he is excited about the chance to coach and he's making the most of it.

"It's a pleasure," Wilson said. "It's a great opportunity for me. I'm blessed to have the opportunity to come up here and do this, bring a little diversity to the area. I'm really enjoying myself up here. It's peaceful."



Photo by Caleb Casey

Boys track team athletes run a lap at a recent practice in the GMS gym.

nity to come up here and do this, bring a little diversity to the area. I'm really enjoying myself up here. It's peaceful."

The Grayling High School

track and field team is scheduled to open its 2003 competition schedule with a meet at Roscommon on Wednesday, April 9, at 4 p.m.

Track team looks for donation of a golf cart

The GHS track and field team is asking area golf courses (and residents) if they have a spare golf cart and might be willing to loan or donate it to the track program to help the coaches with transportation at practices.

The track and field team's athletes practice their different events at different areas of the stadium, some of which are quite a ways apart, and the program could use a golf cart to help the coaches quickly get from station to station, increasing the time they can spend with the athletes, Coach Darnell Wilson said.

Anyone interested in donating or loaning a golf cart to the GHS track team is urged to contact Wilson at 344-3508 (work) or 344-2355 (home).

Athletic department considers eligibility policy changes

► 'Strict' policy may be eased to allow for chance to bring grades up

by Caleb Casey
Staff Writer

Grayling High School has one of the strictest eligibility policies for athletes in the state, according to CASD Athletic Director Brian Banda. Banda is working

with the school board to bring about a change to the school's eligibility policy to make it a little easier for athletes to get their eligibility back if they lose it due to failing grades.

"As the policy stands, if an athlete fails one class, they are ineligible for nine weeks," Banda said. "Nine weeks is a long time. When I asked other (athletic directors) at the state conference, no one had a policy this strict."

The Michigan High School

Athletic Association's eligibility policy says an athlete has to be passing five classes, Banda said, so players can be failing two classes and still be eligible, depending on the school's individual eligibility policy.

Banda said he will present specific options for changing the GHS eligibility policy to the school board in April. He is looking into adding a provision that would allow athletes who fail a class to be monitored from week

to week, giving them a chance to regain their eligibility if they can get their grades up.

"Right now, those who fail a class are not provided an opportunity to make that up" with regard to eligibility, Banda said. "That can be viewed as somewhat punitive."

Banda hopes that by allowing athletes the opportunity to regain their eligibility by improving their grades, the school will keep more students involved in sports.

1st Rnd.

2nd Rnd.

Regionals

Semifinals

Regionals

2nd Rnd.

1st Rnd.

March 20 or 21

March 22 or 23

1. Kentucky (29-3)
JC Penney's
16. JUPITER (20-13)
Grayling Nursing Centre

1. Kentucky
JC Penney's

8. Oregon (23-9)
Rochette's

9. Utah (24-7)
Fox Run Country Club

5. Wisconsin (22-7)
Diane's Car Wash

12. Weber State (26-5)
Medicine Shoppe

4. Dayton (24-5)
Ausable Construction

13. Tulsa (22-9)
Showtyme Collision

13. Tulsa
Showtyme Collision

5. Wisconsin
Diane's Car Wash

13. Tulsa
Showtyme Collision

6. Missouri (21-10)
Northern Cafe

11. Southern Illinois (24-6)
Scott McNamara Ford-Roscommon

3. Marquette (23-5)
Ausable Valley Homes

14. Holy Cross (26-4)
Scheer Motors

7. Indiana (20-12)
Country Skillet

10. Alabama (17-11)
Heads Up North

2. Pittsburgh (26-4)
Rialto

15. Wagner (21-10)
Darwin's Jewelry Repair

1. Arizona (25-3)
AVCI.NET

16. Vermont (21-11)
Arby's

8. Cincinnati (17-11)
Century 21

9. Gonzaga (23-8)
Scott McNamara Ford-Grayling

5. Notre Dame (22-10)
Kellogg's Bridge One Stop

12. Wis.-Milwaukee (24-7)
Jiffy Motor Mall

4. Illinois (24-6)
7-Eleven

13. Western Kentucky (24-8)
One Dam Rd. Party Store

6. Creighton (29-4)
Moore's Automotive

11. Central Michigan (24-6)
Scott McNamara Ford-Roscommon

3. Duke (24-6)
Grayling Pharmacy

14. Colorado State (19-13)
Darlene's Milltown Cremer

7. Memphis (23-6)
Davis Jewelers

10. Arizona State (19-11)
Hart Pontiac GMC Buick

2. Kansas (25-7)
DuBois Lumber & Rental Center

15. Utah State (24-8)
Heads Up North

1. Arizona
AVCI.NET

9. Colorado
Scott McNamara Ford-Grayling

5. Notre Dame
Kellogg's Bridge One Stop

11. Central Michigan
Scott McNamara Ford-Roscommon

3. Duke
Grayling Pharmacy

10. Arizona State
Hart Pontiac GMC Buick

2. Kansas
DuBois Lumber & Rental Center

MIDWEST

Minneapolis
March 27 & March 29

2. Pittsburgh
Rialto

5. Notre Dame
Kellogg's Bridge One Stop

11. Central Michigan
Scott McNamara Ford-Roscommon

3. Duke
Grayling Pharmacy

10. Arizona State
Hart Pontiac GMC Buick

2. Kansas
DuBois Lumber & Rental Center

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11. Central Michigan
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2. Kansas
DuBois Lumber & Rental Center

LEGAL ACTION

Public Auction Sale

Under the authority in Internal Revenue Code section 6331, the property described below has been seized for non-payment of internal revenue taxes due from RELIABLE SUPPLY & EQUIPMENT CO. The property will be sold at public auction as provided by Internal Revenue Code section 6335 and related regulations. 04/22/2003, 11:00 AM, 200 W. MICHIGAN AVE., GRAYLING, MI 49738 (BASEMENT LEVEL).

Only the right, title and interest of RELIABLE SUPPLY & EQUIPMENT CO. in and to the property will be offered for sale. If requested, the Internal Revenue Service will furnish information about possible encumbrances, which may be useful in determining the value of the interest being sold.

Real Property located in the State of Michigan, City of Grayling, County of Crawford, and further described as:

The Southwesterly 40.0 feet of Lots 5 and 6, all of Lot 7, and the Northerly 50 feet of Lot 8, Block 8, of the Original Plat of the Village (now City) of Grayling, according to the plat thereof, as recorded in Liber 1 of Plats, Page 02 Crawford County Records.

Approximately 5,000 square feet block wall building, commercial zoning, lot size 110' X 180'.

AKA: 102 Ottawa Street, Grayling, MI
MINIMUM BID: \$63,032.07.

Property may be inspected at: DRIVE BY ONLY, 102 Ottawa Street, Grayling, Michigan.

Full payment required on acceptance of highest bid.

All payments must be made by cash, certified check, cashier's or treasurer's check or by a United States postal, bank, express, or telegraph money order. Make check or money order payable to the Internal Revenue Service. FOR MORE INFO VISIT OUR WEBSITE: www.irs.ustreas.gov/auctions/irs OR CALL: IRS, PALS

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3320 Middlesex Drive
Springhill, FL 34607
727-862-9316

Dated: March 27, 2003
Orlans Associates PC
Attorney for Fifth Third Mortgage-MI
LLC, As Mortgagee
P.O. Box 5041
Troy, MI 48007-5041
(248) 457-1000
File No. 200.0789

27-03-10-17-24

Attorneys and Counselors
30400 Telegraph Road, Suite 200
Bingham Farms, MI 48025
File # 200313211
Team H

20-27-03-10

STATE OF MICHIGAN

JUDICIAL DISTRICT

CRAWFORD JUDICIAL

CIRCUIT

ORDER FOR SERVICE BY

PUBLICATION/POSTING

AND NOTICE OF ACTION

200 WEST MICHIGAN AVENUE

GRAYLING, MICHIGAN 49738

Case No. 03-6017 CH

J.C. Monte, L.C.

v

Everett C. Smiley and

Doris A. Smiley, husband and wife

TO: Everett C. Smiley and Doris A.

Smiley

IT IS ORDERED:

1. You are being sued by plaintiff in

this court to quiet title to Lot 60, Northern Heights, Warblers Hideaway, Crawford County, MI. You must file your answer or take other action permitted by law in this court at the court address above on or before May 9, 2003. If you fail to do so, a default judgment may be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint filed in this case.

Dated: March 20, 2003
Judge Alton T. Davis (P-24472)

David R. Sabin P19822
Attorney for Plaintiff

115 Michigan Avenue
Grayling, MI 49738
989-348-5588

-27-03-10

Notice of Mortgage Foreclosure Sale

This firm is a debt collector attempting to collect a debt. Any information we obtain will be used for that purpose. Please contact our office at the number below if you are in active military duty.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS:
The decedent, Betty Delores Lifford, who lived at 1039 Trails End Road, Grayling, Michigan, 49738 died November 4, 2002.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Patricia Papendick, named personal representative or proposed personal representative, or to both the probate court at 200 W. Michigan Ave, Grayling, MI 49738 and the named/proposed personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

Date: March 24, 2003
Patricia Papendick
115 Trails End Road
Grayling, MI 49738
989-348-7036

-3

STATE OF MICHIGAN COUNTY OF CRAWFORD NOTICE TO CREDITORS Decedent's Estate

Estate of John E. Godbey, deceased,
Date of birth: 08/20/27

NOTICE TO CREDITORS:

The decedent, John E. Godbey, deceased, who lived at 3547 Juniper Way, Grayling, Michigan, 49738, and who used to reside and conduct business in Oakland County, Michigan, died January 8, 2003.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Geraldine F. Dougherty, named Trustee under the Stanley R. Clarke Revocable Living Trust.

Under the power of sale contained in the mortgage and the statutes of the State of Michigan, notice is hereby given that the mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue at the front door of the County Building in Grayling in Crawford County, Michigan at 10:00 a.m. on April 30, 2003.

The premises are located in the Township of Grayling, Crawford County, Michigan, and are described as:

Commencing 200 feet North and 33 feet West of the Southeast corner of the Southeast 1/4 of the Southeast 1/4; thence North 120 feet; thence West 120 feet; thence South 120 feet; thence East 120 feet to the point of beginning of Section 6, Town 26 North, Range 3 West.

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless the property is determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of the sale.

The foreclosing mortgagee can rescind the sale in the event a 3rd party buys the property and there is a simultaneous resolution with the borrower.

Dated: March 20, 2003
For information, please call:

Team H (248) 593-1300

Trott & Trott, P.C.

(339)

MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE OF LAND AND FACILITIES

NOTICE OF SALE OF SURPLUS LANDS

LAND TRANSACTION CASE NO. 20000281

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to the provisions of Section 2133, Part 21, Subpart 10 of Act 451, P.A. 1994, that the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) proposes to sell the following State-owned land or rights in land by auction:

Crawford County, Lovells Township, Section 21, T28N, R1W; the SW 1/4 of the NW 1/4. (40 acres)

The proposed sale of this land is being published for public comment. Any comments regarding the proposed sale of this land should be forwarded to Mr. Robert L. Couveur, Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Office of Land and Facilities, P.O. Box 30448, Lansing, MI 48909-7948, or via e-mail at couver@Michigan.gov. Phone 517-335-3259. The deadline for comments is April 21, 2003.

PLEASE NOTE: This notice is not a solicitation for bids. Further information concerning this case is available by contacting Ms. Carol Larsen, Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Office of Land and Facilities, P.O. Box 30448, Lansing, MI 48909-7948, or via e-mail at larsencb@Michigan.gov. Phone 517-335-3324.

(339)

Notice of Foreclosure Sale

Default having been made in the terms and conditions of a certain mortgage made by Jocelyn Montgomery of 205 Alexia Lane, Grayling, Michigan 49738 to First National Bank of Gaylord, of 501 W. Main Street, Gaylord, Michigan 49735, dated July 3, 2001 and recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds, for the County of Crawford, and State of Michigan, on August 2, 2001, in Liber 0546 Pages 306 through 313 Crawford County Records, and on which there is claimed to be due, at the date of this notice, for principal, interest and late fees, the sum of \$24,414.98.

As no suit or other legal proceedings have been filed to recover the debt secured by the Mortgage; Now, therefore, by virtue of the power of sale contained in the mortgage, and pursuant to the statutes of the State of Michigan, NOTICE is hereby given that on Wednesday, the 23rd day of April 2003 at 10 o'clock a.m. the mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale at the main entrance to the County Building in the City of Grayling, Crawford County, Michigan, of that premises described in the mortgage, or so much thereof as may be necessary to pay the amount due, on the mortgage, with interest thereon at the contract rate and all legal costs, charges and expenses, including the attorney fees allowed by law, and also any sums which may be paid by the mortgagor to protect its interest in the premises.

The premises are described as follows: Land situated in the Township of Grayling, County of Crawford, State of Michigan, described as:

Lot 101, Grayling Mobile Estates #3. Township of Grayling, Crawford County, Michigan, according to the recorded plat thereof, as recorded in Liber 3 of Plats, Page 23, Crawford County Records.

The redemption period shall be six (6) months from the date of such sale, unless the property is determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be thirty (30) days from the date of the sale.

Dated: March 11, 2003

Bodman, Longley & Dahlberg LLP

Amy J. Duran (P54777)

Debt Collector for First National

Bank of Gaylord

229 Court Street

P.O. Box 405

Cheboygan, MI 49721

(231) 627-4351

-20-27-03-10-17

Notice of Mortgage Foreclosure Sale

This firm is a debt collector attempting to collect a debt. Any information we obtain will be used for that purpose.

Please contact our office at the number below if you are in active military duty.

IT IS ORDERED:

1. You are being sued by plaintiff in

this court to quiet title to Lot 60, Northern Heights, Warblers Hideaway, Crawford County, MI. You must file your answer or take other action permitted by law in this court at the court address above on or before May 9, 2003. If you fail to do so, a default judgment may be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint filed in this case.

Dated: March 20, 2003

Judge Alton T. Davis (P-24472)

David R. Sabin

Attorney for Plaintiff

115 Michigan Avenue

Grayling, MI 49738

989-348-5588

-27-03-10

The premises are located in the Township of Grayling, Crawford County, Michigan, and are described as:

Commencing 200 feet North and 33 feet West of the Southeast corner of the Southeast 1/4 of the Southeast 1/4; thence North 120 feet; thence West 120 feet; thence South 120 feet; thence East 120 feet to the point of beginning of Section 6, Town 26 North, Range 3 West.

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless the property is determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of the sale.

The foreclosing mortgagee can rescind the sale in the event a 3rd party buys the property and there is a simultaneous resolution with the borrower.

Dated: March 20, 2003

For information, please call:

Team H (248) 593-1300

Trott & Trott, P.C.

(339)

STATE OF MICHIGAN CIRCUIT COURT COUNTY OF CRAWFORD

Case No. 00-5181-CK

Honorable Dennis F. Murphy
D. Jerome Slack, As Trustee
of the D. Jerome Slack Trust

U/A/D June 26, 1981, Plaintiff

v

Paul W. Schroeder, Colleen

Schroeder, jointly and severally,

and Barnstormers, Inc., a Michigan cor-

poration; d/b/a Red Barn, d/b/a

Margretheville, Defendants,

Thomas R. Alward (P31724)

Brandi, Fisher, Alward & Roy, P.C.

Attorney for Plaintiff

1241 E. Eighth Street

P.O. Box 5817

Traverse City, MI 49696-5817

231-941-9660

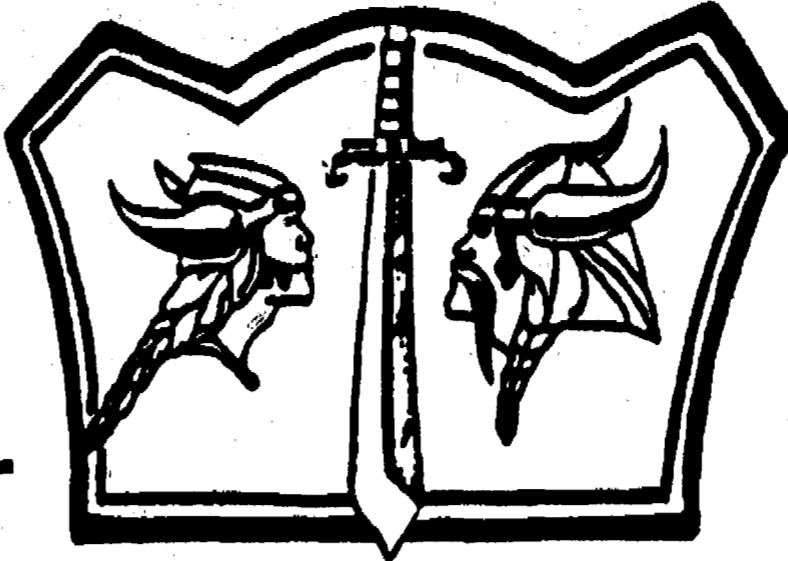
-27-03-10-17-24

Notice of Foreclosure Sale

1. On August 16, 2002, the Circuit Court for the County of Crawford, State of Michigan, entered a Judgment of Foreclosure in this matter.

Spring CALENDAR

S. Sports Calendar



ing Vikings City Soccer

Opponent	H/A	Event Time	Bus Time
Tawas	A	5:00	2:25
Roscommon	A	5:00	3:30
Oscoda	A	5:00	2:15
Pinconning	H	5:00	
West Branch Ogemaw Heights	H	5:00	
Standish-Sterling	A	5:00	2:30
Bay City John Glenn	A	5:00	
Boyne City	A	5:00	3:00
Tawas	H	5:00	
Oscoda	H	5:00	
Pinconning	A	5:00	2:30
West Branch Ogemaw Heights	A	5:00	2:45
Boyne City	H	5:00	
Standish-Sterling	H	5:00	
Bay City John Glenn	A	5:00	2:15

Grayling Vikings Junior Varsity Softball

Day	Date	Opponent	H/A	Event Time	Bus Time
Monday	April 14, 2003	Roscommon	A	4:00	3:00
Wednesday	April 16, 2003	Houghton Lake	H	4:00	
Monday	April 21, 2003	Charlevoix	A	4:30	2:30
Tuesday	April 22, 2003	Tawas	A	4:00	2:00
Thursday	April 24, 2003	Elk Rapids	H	4:30	
Monday	April 28, 2003	Kalkaska	A	4:30	3:15
Tuesday	April 29, 2003	Oscoda	H	4:00	
Thursday	May 1, 2003	Boyne City	H	4:30	
Tuesday	May 6, 2003	East Jordan	A	4:30	2:30
Thursday	May 8, 2003	Harbor Springs	H	4:30	
Monday	May 12, 2003	Traverse City St. Francis	A	4:30	2:30
Thursday	May 15, 2003	Pinconning	H	4:00	
Monday	May 19, 2003	League Make-up			
Tuesday	May 20, 2003	West Branch Ogemaw Heights	A	4:00	2:10
Thursday	May 22, 2003	Bay City John Glenn	A	4:00	1:30

Grayling Vikings Girls Golf

Day	Date	Opponent	H/A	Event Time	Bus Time
Wednesday	April 16, 2003	Hillman	A	4:00	2:00
Tuesday	April 22, 2003	Alpena	A	4:00	1:30
Monday	April 28, 2003	Roscommon	H	4:00	
Tuesday	April 29, 2003	Petoskey/Newberry	A	4:00	2:00
Thursday	May 1, 2003	Alpena/Roscommon	H	4:00	
Monday	May 5, 2003	Hillman Invitational	A	9:00	7:00
Wednesday	May 7, 2003	Hillman/Roscommon	A	4:00	TBA
Thursday	May 8, 2003	Petoskey Invitational	A	9:00	7:00
Monday	May 12, 2003	Roscommon	A	4:00	TBA
Friday	May 16, 2003	Regionals	TBA	TBA	TBA

Underline denotes site of away game

ing Vikings s Tennis

Opponent	H/A	Event Time	Bus Time
Charlevoix	H	4:00	
Boyne City (JV)	H	4:00	
Etoskey (JV)	A	4:00	2:00
Charlevoix City St. Francis	H	4:00	
Iron Rapids (JV)	A	4:00	2:00
Charlevoix City Central (JV)	A	4:00	2:00
Arbor Springs (JV)	H	4:00	
Charlevoix Invitational	A	4:00	2:00
Alpena	A	9:00	7:00
Arbor Springs (JV)	H	4:00	
Charlevoix Invitational	A	4:30	2:00
Etoskey (JV)	H	4:00	
Regionals	TBA	TBA	TBA
Charlevoix City Central (JV)	A	4:00	2:15

Grayling Vikings Junior Varsity Softball

Day	Date	Opponent	H/A	Event Time	Bus Time
Monday	April 14, 2003	Roscommon	H	4:00	3:00
Wednesday	April 16, 2003	Houghton Lake	H	4:00	
Monday	April 21, 2003	Charlevoix	A	4:30	2:30
Tuesday	April 22, 2003	Tawas	A	4:00	2:00
Thursday	April 24, 2003	Elk Rapids	H	4:30	
Monday	April 28, 2003	Kalkaska	A	4:30	3:15
Tuesday	April 29, 2003	Oscoda	H	4:00	
Thursday	May 1, 2003	Boyne City	H	4:30	
Tuesday	May 6, 2003	East Jordan	A	4:30	2:30
Thursday	May 8, 2003	Harbor Springs	H	4:30	
Monday	May 12, 2003	Traverse City St. Francis	A	4:30	2:30
Thursday	May 15, 2003	Pinconning	H	4:00	
Monday	May 19, 2003	League Make-up			
Tuesday	May 20, 2003	West Branch Ogemaw Heights	A	4:00	2:10
Thursday	May 22, 2003	Bay City John Glenn	A	4:00	1:30

Grayling Restaurant

Jansen Insurance Agency

Fick & Sons

Charlie's Country Corner

Arby's

Super 8 Motel

Grayling Youth Booster Club

Ole Dam Rd Party Store

Kentucky Fried Chicken

Grand Traverse Allergy

N'Orthopedics P.C.

Pizza Hut

Little Caesars

Grayling Physical Therapy

Dr. Toupin

A Cut Above

Rochette's

Goodales Bakery

Northern Michigan Allergy Dr. Tim Linehan

Dr. Dean / Dr. Aubry

Northland Area Credit Union

Boards & Beyond

Jack Millikin

JJ's Motor Mall

Dr. Denholm

Buccillis

Grayling Country Club

BAYOLDNSAND FEATURES

A LOOK AT OUR PAST FROM THE PAGES OF THE AVALANCHE

23 Years Ago

April 3, 1980

Grayling City Manager, Jerry Morford, will be joined by other city luminaries at a ribbon-cutting ceremony for MAC Distributing of Grayling. The new business is just the beginning of more jobs for the area, an improved business climate and a promise of continued economic growth for Grayling.

The Crawford-AuSable School District has taken a great step forward in Health Security for our Community by expanding the required Health course for graduation from Grayling High School to include Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation and Standard First Aid and Personal Safety Training.

Crawford County stands to receive \$1.2 million in Housing and Urban Development funds for fiscal years 1980 through 1982. The grants to Crawford County will be used primarily for housing rehabilitation. The Crawford County grant of \$1.2 million was the largest made under the program.

Steven Stinson, ten year old son of Louis and Sharon Stinson, was one of the Webelo Scouts honored at the Blue and Gold Awards Dinner held in Gladwin. Steve was awarded his athletic pin and his naturalist pin.

The Board of Trustees of the Michigan Veterans Trust Fund announced the reappointment of Larkin C. Baker, of Frederic, to continue serving on the Crawford County Veterans Trust Fund Committee.

The Grayling Jaycees, in the midst of their second successful Jelly Week, are nearing completion of their goal of selling 1,200 jars of jelly.

Grayling High School Track Coach, Merilee Cheney, said her

team performed well following a seventh place Class C finish at the Ferris State College Girl's Invitational Track meet.

Thirty teams entered the event, won by North Muskegon High with 52 points. The Vikings garnered 19 to capture the seventh slot at the meet.

Freshman Beth Jones was the lone Viking first place winner leading all the way to capture top spot in the two mile event.

The Annual Ski Team Banquet held last Wednesday raised \$105.50 for the Hanson Ski Area.

Special Ski Team award winners were Stephanie Fick, four year racer; John Huss, Number one boy racer and most consistent skier; Jean Wieland, Number one girl racer, most consistent 1980 and Most Valuable Skier Award 1980; Toni Trudgeon, four year racer award and 1980 most consistent racer award; Bill Martella, second on team in total wins and Sheri Wieland, second on team in total wins.

Coach Bill Bedford's Middle School Wrestling Team captured its tenth straight wrestling tournament championship over the past five years with a win at Benzie Central.

Signs of Spring-remodeling of an old shed near the railroad tracks! What a great improvement! The Welcome Grayling signs at the entrances to town are attractive.

46 Years Ago

April 4, 1957

Seven hundred fifty voices will blend in song in the new Grayling High gym next Thursday, when the District 9, Michigan State Vocal Association's Glee Club Festival is held.

The Fourth Annual Grayling Trade Show sponsored by the Grayling Woman's Club will open for its two

day stand in the Grayling High School Gymnasium next Friday.

Grayling merchants are going all out to bring the best show yet. New and novel booths with lavish displays of merchandise will be a feature of the show.

The Grayling Woman's Club held their business meeting and announced new officers for the next year. Mrs. John Alef will serve as president, Mrs. Robert Bovee elected vice-president, Mrs. Mary Farmer, second vice-president, Mrs. Richard DuBois, recording secretary, Mrs. Glen Fenton, treasurer, and Mrs. Don Gothro, corresponding secretary.

The Grayling High Vikings at an assembly last week, presented the District and Regional Michigan High School Athletic Association Basketball Tournament trophies to the school. Members of the team include Oscar Horning, Co-captain Bob Strong, Co-captain Dave Lowe, Bill Martin, Don Roberts, Tony Doremire, Aubrey Welch, Bob Houghton, Ronnie Case, Don Campbell, Newt Allison, Jim Kesseler, manager Larry LaGrow and Roger Hatfield.

School finances were the subject for discussion at the regular P.T.A. meeting held March 25.

Superintendent Joseph Stripe stated that even if a millage is voted on, the school will be \$11,000 short of what it needs to operate, according to the tentative budget compiled for 1957-58.

The Nickel and Dime buffet supper sponsored by the Feldhauser P.T.A. Saturday served one hundred forty-seven persons, and successfully enabled the P.T.A. to finish payments of a movie projector for the Feldhauser School.

Crawford County residents will have a bigger individual income tax bill to pay this year. This is not a result from higher taxes, rather a higher income, which translates to higher taxes.

According to the latest annual returns, made last March, an estimated yield of \$687,000 was gained from the county.

69 Years Ago

April 5, 1934

It was a tight race for the office of supervisor of Grayling Township between Fred Niederer, Republican and Frank Sales, Democrat, the former winning by a vote of 249 to 234.

Grayling has been honored by being selected by the North Road Open Hornung Club of Detroit for one of their race stations to fly their pigeons from. Birds will be shipped from Detroit and will be liberated about 6 a.m. Sunday morning.

The Grayling Lumberjacks decided it was time that they won their annual independent basketball tournament themselves, and after holding on to a 20 point defeat over Clare, they won the high honor and the gold basketballs at the annual tournament.

The sixth fire of the week occurred last Wednesday when the McClain Fish Factory was consumed by flames with loss of the entire building and its contents.

92 Years Ago

April 6, 1911

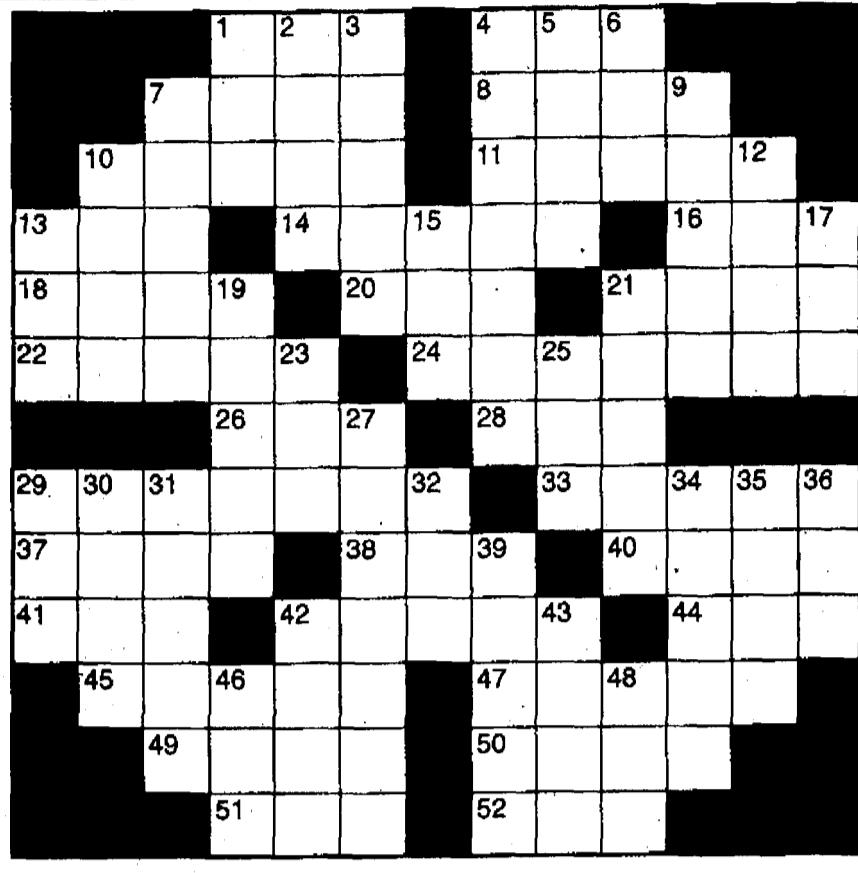
T.E. Douglas and Company are going to install another shingle machine in the mill at Lovells, to handle increasing business.

The population of our town has increased wonderfully lately as forty-one are registered here.

Tuesday was Hospital Day in Grayling. The honor and glory of the success belongs to the ladies of Grayling, who worked so hard and faithfully. The reception committee attended to the two thousand and more persons and showed them through the building.

The unanimous opinion of everyone is that the hospital is a modern and up-to-date institute.

CROSSWORD



ACROSS

- 1. Girlish: abbr.
- 4. Bedouin cloak
- 7. Presidential nix
- 8. He carries on for Carson
- 10. Begin's Camp David partner
- 11. Mineral
- 13. "Annie Get Your ___"
- 14. Iced-tea flavoring
- 16. Wool cap
- 18. Expanse
- 20. ___ Joaquin
- 21. Director Clair
- 22. Sign, on the Seine
- 24. Esteemed
- 26. Snug ___ bug in a rug (2 wds.)
- 28. Brillo rival
- 29. Lacking direction
- 33. India's neighbor
- 37. Sinking-in phrase
- 38. Undermine
- 40. Country star McEntire
- 41. Pot cover
- 42. More buttonlike?
- 44. Merino male
- 45. More respectable
- 47. Lose one's poker face
- 49. Cryptographer's subject
- 50. Egad, egad, egad!
- 51. Pulp author Buntline
- 52. Three, to Luigi

DOWN

- 1. Gave breakfast to
- 2. Common Latin abbr.
- 3. Tiny specks
- 4. Hershey Bar nuts
- 5. "I've ___ Working On The Railroad"
- 6. Aardvark's ort
- 7. Barn toppers
- 9. Tom Mix two-reeler
- 10. By all means!
- 12. Strike site
- 13. Silence by force
- 15. Barnyard sound
- 17. It's between sm. and lg.
- 19. "I could ___ unfold..." (*Hamlet*) (2 wds.)
- 21. Glee club platform
- 23. Paris-to-Zürich dir.
- 25. Before Tue.
- 27. Confident
- 29. Be miserable
- 30. "...pudding ___ the eating" (2 wds.)
- 31. Doc
- 32. Made a lap
- 34. Roost
- 35. Blind as ___ (2 wds.)
- 36. Crook's hasty departure
- 39. Presidential wild card of 1992
- 42. Give over
- 43. Back part
- 46. One in the stir
- 48. Chowed down

ANSWERS IN THE CLASSIFIEDS

RECIPE OF THE WEEK

Gourmet Dog Biscuits

2 cups whole-wheat flour
1/2 cup dry nonfat milk
1 cup (8 ounces) finely shredded mild cheddar cheese, room temperature
10 ounces frozen, chopped spinach, thawed and drained
1 cup (2 sticks) margarine, softened
2 cloves of garlic crushed
water, if necessary
1 bag Wilton White Candy Melts® (to decorate)
1 bottle Wilton rainbow nonpareils (to decorate)

Spray cookie sheet with vegetable pan spray. In a

food processor, process cheese, spinach, margarine and garlic. Add dry ingredients. Chill one hour. Roll out onto floured surface. Cut with dog, cat or bone-shaped cookie cutter. Bake on prepared cookie sheet at 300°F for 30-45 minutes or until light brown. When cool, store treats in an airtight container.
Optional Decorating Instructions: Melt white candy melts according to instructions on package. Dip ends of dog treats into melted candy melts and sprinkle with nonpareils. Using melted candy melts and a disposable decorating bag, write pet's name on treats.

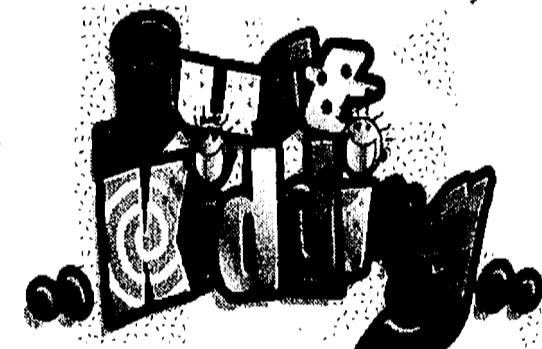
SEEK AND FIND

FIND THESE WORDS IN THE PUZZLE BELOW.

ACRYLICS EASEL OILS
BRUSH FRAME PAPER
CANVAS INK PASTELS
CHARCOAL MARKERS PENCIL

THE WORDS READ UP, DOWN AND ACROSS.

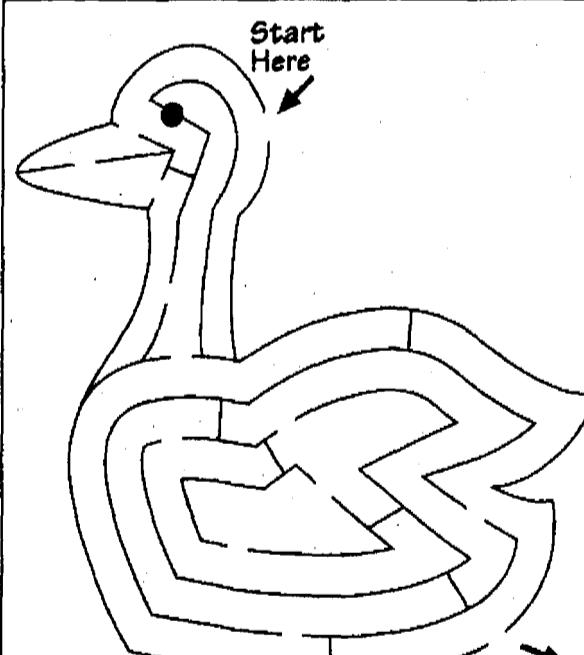
X	A	E	R	S	C	I	O	J	Y
E	R	M	T	B	R	U	S	H	W
C	H	A	R	C	O	A	L	W	Q
L	F	R	A	M	E	D	E	S	A
I	N	K	F	G	T	Y	T	C	U
C	M	E	P	P	O	O	S	A	I
N	N	R	A	B	I	V	A	N	C
E	K	S	P	L	Z	P	V	X	
P	J	H	E	A	S	E	L	A	G
D	A	C	R	Y	L	I	C	S	F



DID YOU KNOW

SCUBA is an acronym for Self Contained Underwater Breathing Apparatus.

MAZE



Adopt a Pet



Emmy Lou is a great Beagle mix puppy. She is about 5 months old, has been spayed and has her shots. All she needs now is someone to take her home and love her. Please call (989) 348-4117 for more information on opening your home to a homeless animal. Or, e-mail: animal_director@yahoo.com.

Winter is especially hard on the water buckets used to haul water to the dogs at the shelter. We could use some donations of 2 1/2, 3, and 5 gallon buckets. We are also in need of blankets, throw rugs, towels, bleach, laundry soap and dishwashing liquid. Any help the community can provide is most appreciated, especially by the animals.

There are still a few Dog-Oopoly, and Wild Animal-Opoly games available! Cost is a donation \$25 each and all proceeds go to help the animals in our care. Creature Comforts Cookbooks are still available for a donation of \$15. Call the shelter for details or stop in the Avalanche for either item.

The Animal Shelter of Crawford County is located at: 508 1/2 Huron Street (M-72 East) in Grayling Between the Road Commission and the Eagles Hall

Hours: Mon. - Sat. 9 am - 1 pm; Sun. and Holidays 8 am - 11 am
After hour appointments available. Call (989) 348-4117

Horoscopes

For the Week of April 3, 2003

	Spring is here, and romance is in full bloom. A new love will come into your life or an old one will burn brighter than ever.
	Your family has asked a lot of you this week. Before you do them any more favors, consider your health. You are so rundown now that if you push any harder you could become ill.
	Dealing with pushy people is not your strong point, but this week, you'll be up to the task. An elderly friend is lonely; take the time to visit them.
	You are inspired by others to improve your life. However, bad habits are hard to break, so don't try to change everything at once.
	Socially, this week looks promising. You will be the center of attention at work and at home, and your calendar will be booked solid. Have fun!
	Your family is making plans for a date close to your heart. Go out, have fun and don't forget to say thank you. Money is tight, so stick to your budget.
	You'll be on the move this week. You'll have to rise early and go to bed late to get everything done. Don't forget to take an occasional breather.
	Negativity reaches a peak at the office. Don't let your coworkers' frame of mind rub off on you. Stay positive and keep smiling.
	Your concerns with them; their reaction may surprise you.
	Friendship is the key to success this week. Your friends will be there to support you.
	Dealing with pushy people is not your strong point, but this week, you'll be up to the task. An elderly friend is lonely; take the time to visit them.
	You'll be on the move this week. You'll have to rise early and go to bed late to get everything done. Don't forget to take an occasional breather.

WEATHER

Courtesy of the City of Grayling

Last Week	Extended Forecast (Courtesy of the Weather.com)				
Date	R	L	Rain	Snow	
3/26	51	20			
3/27	47	19			
3/28	42	20	.24		
3/29	57	24	.13		
3/30	28	13	.07	T	
3/31	35	13	.02	1	
4/1	37	13	.10	T	
	Shower	Shower	Few Showers	Party Cloudy	Snow Showers / Wind

ADVERTISING CLASSIFIED

Crawford County Avalanche

1 Real Estate

MOBILE HOME PARK & Camp Ground Land Contract terms. (989) 348-8959 (7/11/02tf/1)

1 Real Estate

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1 Real Estate

MANY NORTHERN MICHIGAN PROPERTIES www.century21grayling.com (1/7/99tf/1)

1 Real Estate

THREE BEDROOM, TWO BATH ranch style home. 1,768 sq. ft. with attached breezeway and double car plus garage. Double plus lot in Karen Woods Subdivision just one mile from town off M-72 West in Grayling. \$128,900 (989) 348-2431 (-3-10-17-24/1)

1 Real Estate

BECOME A HOMEOWNER Northern Homes CDC is offering free homebuyer Counseling classes for the MSHDA sponsored program links to Homeownership. Families with a related minor child living in the home, or a pregnant applicant/co-applicant who meet financial program guidelines are eligible.

These classes can assist you with potential down payment assistance, credit repair, pre-purchase inspections and maintenance training. Classes are now forming. Call Alice Yeoman at 866-637-1834 Toll Free. Northern Homes CDC is a private non-profit organization whose mission is to create affordable housing opportunities in Northern Michigan. Equal Housing Opportunity. (LR4/3/03/1)

MORTGAGES

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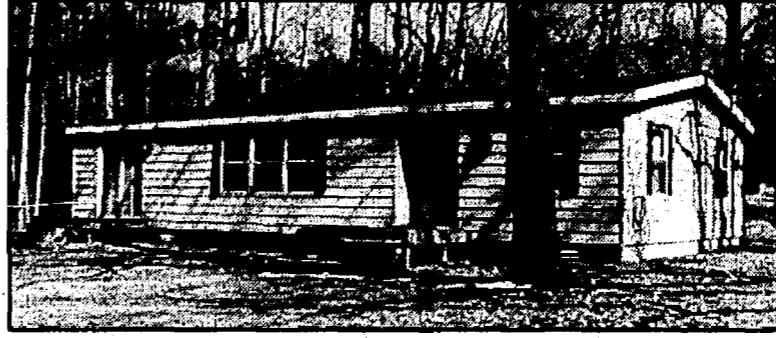
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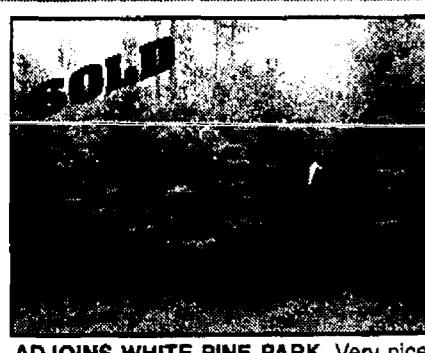


"GREAT FAMILY HOME" only one block from Lake Margrethe. 3 bedroom, 2 bath home with large living room with vaulted ceilings and a wet bar for entertaining. New roof in 2001 and all appliances included. FF-1720 \$64,900

LOW LOW MORTGAGE RATES Loan Closing three weeks or less. Northland Area Credit Union. 1-800-336-2328 (8/8/02tf/1)

GRAYLING TOWNSHIP
Vacant lots for sale. 1/2 acre wooded, main road. \$13,900 each. Krausmann Realty. (248) 333-8888 (LR6/19/03/1)

RE/MAX
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Grayling

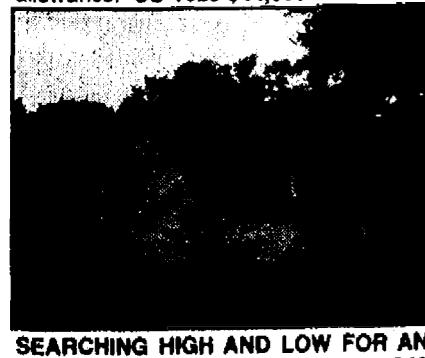


ADJOINS WHITE PINE PARK. Very nice mixture with mature Red Pines. CS-1560 \$10,500



DOLLARS MAKE SENSE when invested in this two bedroom, one bath home offers 1,178 sq. ft. Large kitchen and dining room combination. Large utility room, 2 car detached garage, 15.5 x 8 enclosed porch and 10 x 30 covered porch. Convenient to shopping, schools, churches, etc. Bank selling as is condition with \$3,000 floor allowance CS-1629 \$44,900

Above the Crowd!



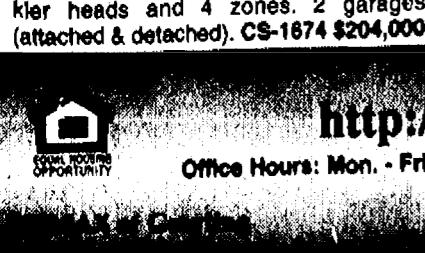
SEARCHING HIGH AND LOW FOR AN AFFORDABLE HOME? Home offers 948 s.f. with 3 bedroom, 1 bath, full basement with laundry. Large updated kitchen with pantry and floating snack bar. Home is ready to move into. Enclosed porch on front. Double lot with all the city services and convenient to stores, churches, schools etc. CS-1611 \$57,000



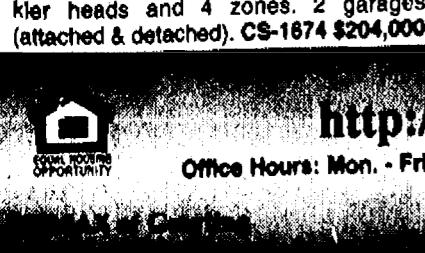
NICE BUILDING SITE! Pines with mixture. Land contract. CS-1588 \$8,950



471 FEET USABLE RIVER WITH 2.75 ACRES. Tranquill setting with lots of wildlife. Custom built home offers 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths with 1600 sq. ft. Open floor plan with living room, family room, kitchen and dining area. Master bedroom offers walk in closet. Computer room or den off upstairs bedroom. Full finished basement with laundry facility. Hot tub off back deck. Hot water heat (wood or propane). Manicured lawn with 55 sprinkler heads and 4 zones. 2 garages (attached & detached). CS-1674 \$204,000



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<http://www.remaxofgrayling.com>
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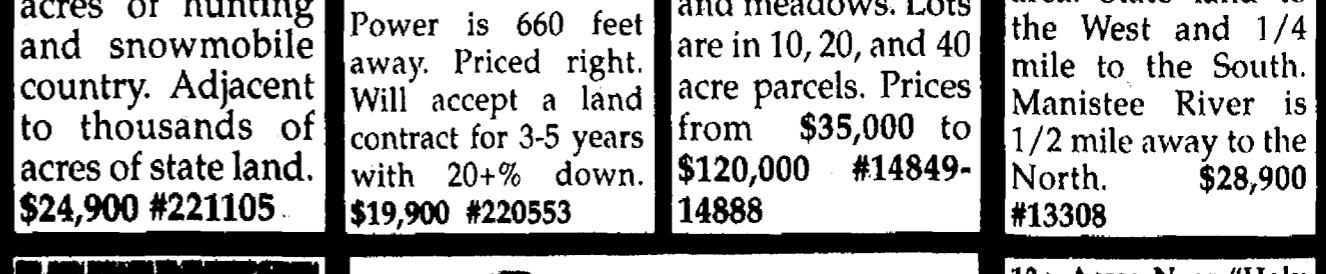
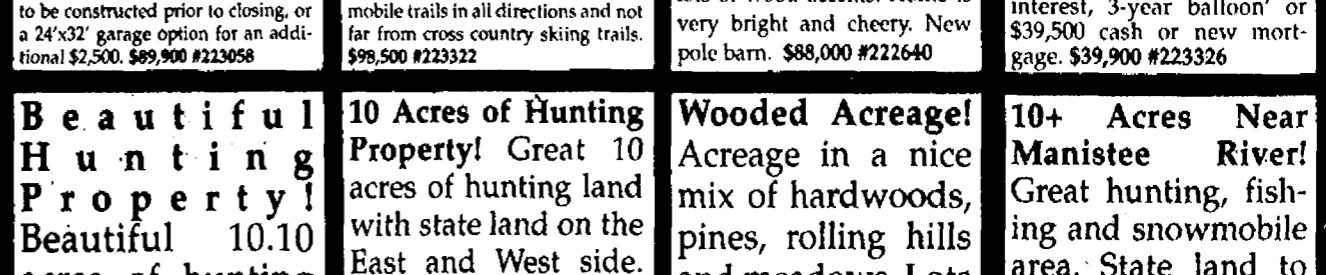
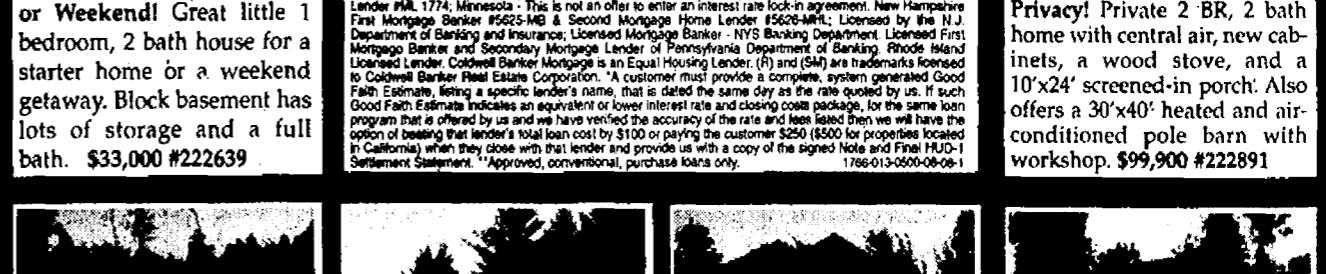
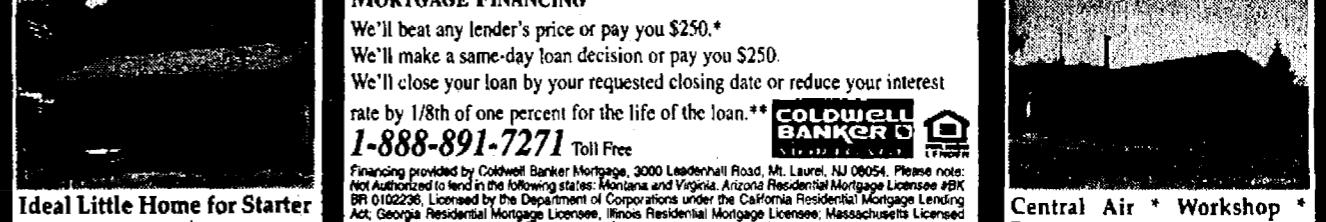
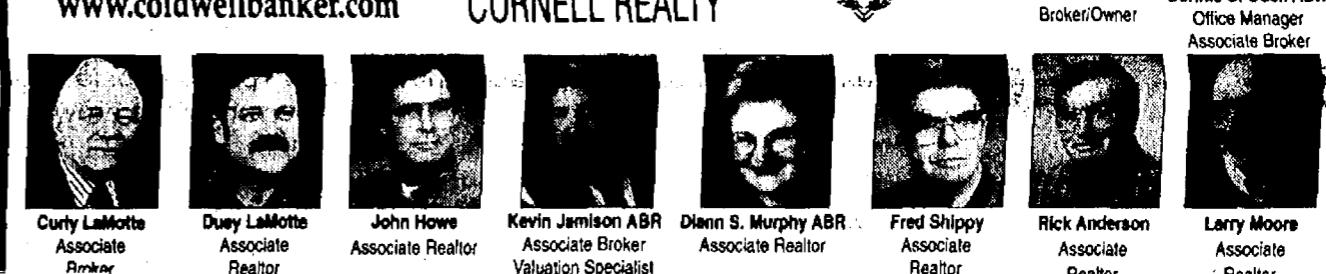
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2. For Rent

OFFICE/RETAIL SPACE for rental, 1,200 sq. ft., immediate opening in neon plaza, Kalkaska. Call Sandy (231) 258-8377 between 9:00 to 3:00. (10/24/02tf/2)

ONE OR TWO BEDROOM upstairs apartment. Conveniently located downtown Grayling. \$375 per month, plus deposit, no pets. Call (989) 348-2833. (-3-10-17-24/2)

THREE BEDROOM, TWO BATH home at Lake Margrethe. Five years old, freshly painted inside. \$600 per month plus security. References, one year lease. No smoking only, no pets. (989) 348-8627 (3/13/03tf/2)

2 BEDROOM, 1 1/2 BATH VIKING VILLAGE APART-

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The Grayling Housing Commission currently has 1 bedroom (senior/disabled) apartments available. Rent is based on 30% of gross adjusted income or \$400 maximum rent. Utilities included or a utility allowance is applied. Please call 348-9314 for more information or stop in at 308 Lawndale.

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3. Employment

Payne & Dolan, Inc. is seeking a Paving Foreman, Grading Foreman, Asphalt Plant Foreman, Paver Operator, Blade Operator, Roller Operators and Laborers to work on its construction crews. Work will include state, municipal and private jobs. Applicants must be at least 18 years of age and have a valid drivers license, and dependable transportation. A CDL license will be required for some positions. Work will be seasonal and primarily located in Northern Lower Michigan and Eastern Upper Michigan. Women and minorities are encouraged to apply. If interested please apply in person by April 23, 2003 at the following address: Payne & Dolan, Inc. 1029 Gornick Ave., Suite 105, Gaylord. EEO Employer/AA Employer.

TEMPORARY EMPLOYMENT POSITION

Crawford County Emergency Management has a temporary part time position to update and enhance the Emergency Operations Plan.

This is a grant funded position beginning April 21, 2003 and concluding by December 15, 2003.

Applicants should be familiar with police, fire, EMS, public works, and human services procedures. Bioterrorism and WMD knowledge is a plus. Computer/typing skills necessary. Travel will be required.

Additional information on the position available at the Emergency Management Office located in the Central Dispatch building.

Resumes and/or applications will be accepted until 4:00 p.m., April 11, 2003 at the Crawford County Office of Emergency Management, 202 W. Michigan Ave., P.O. Box 146, Grayling, MI 49738-0146 An Equal Opportunity Employer

INSTRUCTOR, SPEECH: Kirtland Community College is accepting applications for a part-time instructor to teach speech during the Summer, 2003 semester. Master's degree and related experience preferred. Interested applicants should submit a cover letter, resume, and copies transcripts by May 2, 2003 to Dale Shantz, Human Resources Department, Kirtland Community College, 10775 N. St. Helen Road, Roscommon, MI 48653, (989) 275-5000, Ext. 271. Kirtland Community College is an equal employment opportunity/affirmative action employer. Visit our web site at: <http://www.kirtland.edu>.

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For more information call:

Dawn Webber, Manager

(800) 252-2065 or (989) 731-2386

or send resume to: **Munson Home Care**

825 North Center, Suite #160

Gaylord, MI 49735

Fax: (989) 731-2378

REGISTRAR: Kirtland Community College is accepting applications for a registrar. Qualified applicants will have the ability to coordinate college registration activities and maintain student record system. Bachelor's degree and 3-5 years experience required. Hourly pay rate of \$13.61 - \$19.74 commensurate with education and experience; excellent fringe benefit package. Send letter of application, resume, and three letters of reference to Dale Shantz, Human Resources Department, Kirtland Community College, 10775 N. St. Helen Road, Roscommon, MI 48653. Applications will be accepted until April 25, 2003. Kirtland Community College is an equal employment opportunity/affirmative action employer. For a complete position description, visit our web site at: <http://www.kirtland.cc.mi.us> or call 989-275-5000, Ext. 239.

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DRIVER'S TRAINING & Road Testing is offered by the Grayling Drivers Training School. Register now for the April 8 class. Contact Howard Lehti (989) 348-8838. (LR4/3/03/4)

HANDGUN TRAINING CLASSES in Roscommon. April 11 and 12. NRA Instructor teaching. Right-to-carry under new Michigan law. (989) 275-3004 or (989) 821-3015. (LR4/3/03/4)

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SMALL HAMMOND ORGAN and bench, good condition, \$450. Record player, \$75. Stereo record player, \$40. 18" TV Magnavox and stand. \$100. Call (989) 348-2787. (-3/5)

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J. DAP CO. is having a Bead Night. Monday, April 7 from 6:00-8:00. Come on in and bring your beading supplies or you can purchase supplies from us. J. Dap is located at 118 Michigan Ave., in Grayling. For more info call us at (989) 348-4011. (-3/5)

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SAWMILL \$3895. New Super Lumbermate 2000. Larger capacities, options. ATV accessories, edgers, skidders. www.norwoodindustries.com Norwood Industries, 252 Sonwil Drive, Buffalo, NY 14225. 1-800-578-1363. EXT 300-N

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6 Wanted

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LOST Seat for a Polaris four wheeler. I-75 south. Call (231) 627-7707. Reward. (-3/7)

KEYS FOUND in the Avalanche back parking lot. Call (989) 348-6811 to identify and claim. (-3/7)

FREE SIX MONTH SUPPLY hearing aid batteries with Medicaid Insurance. Call Bell Hearing Center. 1-888-556-0025 (-3-10-17/7)

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3 Announcements

GRAY ROCK CAFE Karaoke every Friday and Saturday night, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. 2123 Industrial Drive, Grayling. (989) 348-5181 (3/13/03tf/8)

"Thanks-Giving" Fest
Join us to give "Thanks" to a great mom, daughter, sister & mother. Join us to "Give" your donations to help Sandy Boersma through her cancer battle. April 5, 2003, 4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. \$5.00 dinner donation. \$20.00 for a family of 6. Full turkey dinner with all the fixings. Being held at Eagles Hall Public Welcome & Encouraged. Being put on by the Friends of Sandy Boersma.

GRAYLING EAGLES AUXILIARY 3465 will be having an Easter Feather Party Bingo, Sunday, April 13 at 1:30 p.m. Cash jackpot of \$300 as well as Ham baskets and other goodies. Bring a friend. We look forward to seeing you there. (-3/8)

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL TROOPS Anyone who has loved ones in the military and would like them remembered, please bring in names, addresses, photos to: Gray Rock Cafe where a wall has been dedicated in their honor. 2123 Industrial Dr., Grayling. (989) 348-5181 (-3/8)

GRAYLING HOLIDAY INN'S Speakeasy Saloon live entertainment. Wednesday thru Saturday bands playing. April 2 - April 5 Luie Entertainment. April 9 and 10 DJ Cal. April 11 and 12 Funkilinium Happy Hour is back. 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. 25 oz drafts, \$2; Bass Ale and Guinness Stout, 25 oz., \$5. (-3-10/8)

J. DAP CO. is having a Bead Night, Monday, April 7 from 6:00-8:00. Come on in and bring your beading supplies or you can purchase supplies from us. J. Dap is located at 118 Michigan Ave., in Grayling. For more info call us at (989) 348-4011. (-3/8)

SPRING TIME SPECIALS BBQ Ribs all you can eat on Saturday night. \$10.99. Senior Citizens get 20% off all regular menu prices on Sunday thru Thursday. 1/2 pound Lake Perch Special for \$9.95 on Fridays. Happy Hour every day at 4:30 to 6:30. \$1.50 for all Domestic Beer and well drinks. 24 oz. Domestic Drafts for \$1.75 during NASCAR on Sundays. Skyline Restaurant open 7 days a week at noon. I-75 at Exit 251. (989) 275-5445 (-3-10/8)

COME TO The Ole Barn April 4 and 5 to see the spectacular band "Dirt Poor". Starts at 9 p.m. (989) 348-8999 (-3/8)

KARAOKE AT The Ole Barn every Thursday, 9 p.m. - 1 a.m. Grayling Idol Karaoke contest starts April 17. Weekly prizes and drink specials. Sing your heart out at The Ole Barn. (-3/8)

INTRODUCING WAVE 3 NETWORKS, high-speed internet, serving Grayling, Roscommon and Higgins Lake area. Business or Residential. Contact: info@wave3networks.com or call (989) 348-5968 or (989) 821-8942. (-3-10-17/8)

9 Personals

Michigan "Biker" Matchmaking
Why ride alone? Place your free personal ad today. You can search or have us search ads for you, and FREE too! Please visit www.michiganbikermatchmaking.com

EXPERIENCE the Light and Sound of God through the Spiritual Exercises of Eckankar. For information: 1-800-Love God or www.eckankar.org (-27-3-10/9)

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL TROOPS Anyone who has loved ones in the military and would like them remembered, please bring in names, addresses, photos to: Gray Rock Cafe where a wall has been dedicated in their honor. 2123 Industrial Dr., Grayling. (989) 348-5181 (-3/9)

FRIDAY, 12:00-6:00 Saturday 9:00-? Antiques, McCoy and Hull cookie jar, duck decoys, old dresser. Cast iron bath tub. 1938 ChrisCraft 14 ft. wood boat, needs restoring. Black bear rug. New AuSable River boat, skis and boots. CD changer, furniture, hand etched oil lamp and mirrors. Many collectible household. Much, much more. 249 S. Roberts. 1 mile north of hospital. (-3/10)

Having a Garage Sale?

Signs available at the Crawford County Avalanche office 102 Michigan Ave.

2003 SILVERADO LS 4wd short box; under 3,500 miles; loaded; white with tan cloth interior; sticker \$30,000, asking \$22,500. Call (989) 348-9092. (-3/11)

1991 LINCOLN CONTINENTAL Four door, good condition. \$3,000. O.B.O. (989) 348-8694. (-3/11)

'99 FORD WINDSTAR SLE Mint condition. White with gold trim, leather, power, deluxe. 75,000 miles. \$13,000 O.B.O. (989) 821-0321 (-3/11)

1994 CHEVROLET 350, Silverado, 4 x 4 truck. 98,000 miles \$5,500 (989) 348-8258 (-20-27-3/11)

ADVERTISING DEADLINES: Regular Display - 1/2 to full page, 5 p.m. Thursday, All others 5 p.m. Friday. Classified Display - 12 noon Monday, Classified by the word - 12 noon Tuesday. These deadlines may change with notice due to holidays or special publication.

1991 GMC SIERRA extended 4WD, Z71 350 automatic, loaded. 1991 has engine warranty remaining, excellent condition, matching Fiberglass cap, never any rust. \$7,900 (989) 348-8659 message. (1/23/03tf/11)

1986 FORD One ton dump truck v-8, automatic transmission. Dump body pins and ram need to be replaced. \$1,500. (989) 275-5445 (-3-10/11)

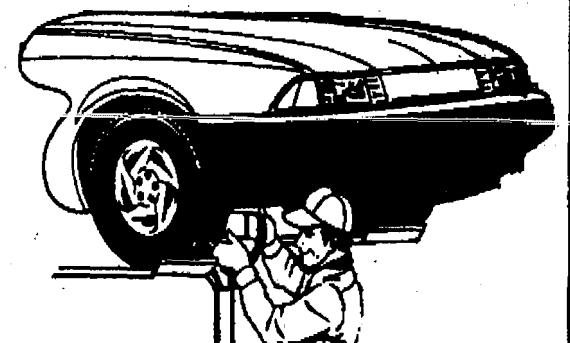
1998 SEDAN DEVILLE Gold color, leather seats, 74,000 miles. \$10,900 (989) 821-9643 (-27-3/11)

Automotive

OIL CHANGE IN 29 MINUTES OR LESS OR THE NEXT ONE IS FREE!

- Oil change (up to five quarts of oil)
- Oil filter
- Chassis lube
- Fluid level checks
- Brakes - differential transfer case - transmission windshield washer
- 25-point inspection
- No Appointment Necessary

- Competitive Up-Front Pricing
- Limited Lifetime Guarantee on Parts & Labor
- Courtesy Transportation



\$22.95
EVERY DAY!

We accept:
Visa - Mastercard - Discover
American Express
Hours: Mon 7:30 am - 8:00 pm
Tues - Fri 7:30 am - 5:30 pm
Sat 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

SEE DEALER FOR GUARANTEE DETAILS

\$1000.00 Trade In Push, Pull or Tow*

Scheer Motors, an established name in the ALTERNATIVE FINANCE business for over five years has a PLAN for you. Don't pre-judge your credit, if you take home \$1,200 or more a month and have been on the job 6 months or longer, we can help you obtain a loan. Simply fill out this AUTO LOAN FORM and mail, fax, or bring it into Scheer and we will assist you in purchasing a new or used vehicle from our inventory.

Name _____ Date of Birth _____

Address _____ State _____ Zip _____

City _____ Home Phone _____

Landlord _____ Employer _____

How long at this address _____ Time on Job _____

Social Security# _____ Trade _____

Employer's Phone Number _____ Down Payment _____

Monthly Income _____ Signature _____

Do not apply to new vehicle, employee sales or conventional financing. Alternative financing only. You are authorized to investigate my credit and employment history and to receive information about your credit experience with us. One trade-in per vehicle note. No return or salvage value on trades.

Scheer Motors Alternative Finance Dept. ATTN: Jack Music U.S. 27 North U.S. 27 North Grayling, MI 49738 800-988-8948 • Fax: 989-344-7403

*Bankruptcy *DISCHARGE Papers *Current Utility Bill *Title for Trade-In (running or not) *7 Personal References

PLEASE BRING: *Current Telephone Bill *Latest 2 Paycheck Stubs

*Bankruptcy *DISCHARGE Papers *Current Utility Bill *Title for Trade-In (running or not) *7 Personal References

SCHEER MOTORS GM Chevrolet

BUILDING NORTHERN MICHIGAN'S Credit, ONE CUSTOMER AT A TIME!

NO CREDIT? BAD CREDIT? BANKRUPTCY? NO PROBLEM! ALL APPLICATIONS ACCEPTED!

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